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JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
 OF THE
M. W. GRAND LODGE

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
 OF THE
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, DEC'R 29, A. J. 5868, AND AT THE
 ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, JUNE 9 AND 10,

A. J.

5869.



ALEXANDER M. WINN, M. D., Manchester, M. W. Grand Master.
 Hon. HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton. R. W. Grand Secretary.

MANCHESTER, N. H. :
 PRINTED BY CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON.
 1869.

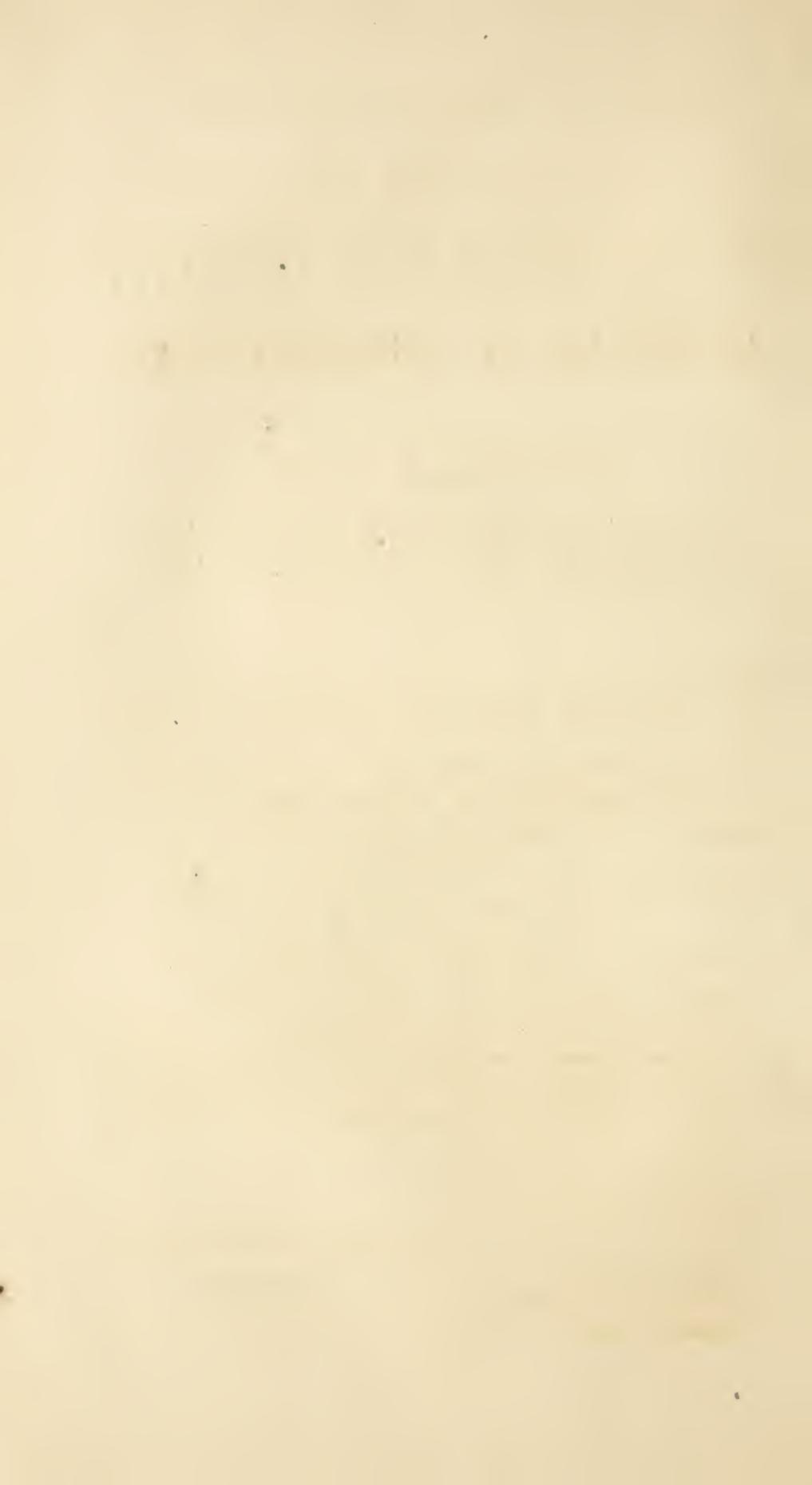
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
M. W. GRAND LODGE
OF THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF THE
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNICATION HELD DEC'R 29, A. L. 5868, AND AT
THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, JUNE 9 AND 10,



ALEXANDER M. WINN, M. D., Manchester, . . . M. W. Grand Master.
Hon. HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, R. W. Grand Secretary.

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JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS,

DECEMBER, A. L. 5868.

The semi-annual communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the ancient and honorable fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire, was held at Manchester, on Tuesday, the 29th day of December, A. D. 1868, A. L. 5868.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

ALEXANDER M. WINN, *M. W. Grand Master.*

JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *R. W. Deputy Grand Master.*

N. W. CUMNER, *R. W. Sen. Grand Warden.*

WILLIAM BARRETT, *R. W. Jun. Grand Warden.*

DANIEL R. MARSHALL, *R. W. Grand Treasurer pro tem.*

HORACE CHASE, *R. W. Grand Secretary.*

JEREMIAH D. PARKER,

CLINTON W. STANLEY,

NATHAN HUTCHINSON,

GEORGE P. CLEAVES,

J. W. DEARBORN,

JESSENIAH KITTREDGE,

MARK S. AIKEN,

R. W. Dis. Dep. Grand Masters.

ALBERT S. WAITE,	}	<i>R. W. Grand Lecturers.</i>
A. M. BRACKETT,		
CHAS. M. ROBINSON,	}	<i>Grand Chaplains.</i>
GEORGE S. HILL,		
JOHN D. PATTERSON,	}	<i>W. Grand Deacons.</i>
EDWARD GUSTINE,		
ANDREW BUNTON, <i>pro tem.</i>	}	<i>W. Grand Stewards.</i>
JOSEPH W. ROBINSON,		
TOBIAS D. FOSS,	}	<i>W. Grand Marshal pro tem.</i>
JOHN CLEMENT,		
E. AYERS,	}	<i>W. Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
JACOB D. MARCH,		
JOHN J. BELL,	}	<i>W. Grand Pursuivant.</i>
LUTHER W. NICHOLS,		
OLIVER A. MEDBURY,	}	<i>W. Grand Tyler.</i>
GEORGE L. REED,		

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

JOHN H. ROWELL, *M. W. Past Grand Master.*

JOHN S. KIDDER, *R. W. Past Deputy Grand Master.*

J. M. HAYES,	}	<i>R. W. P. Dis. Dep. Grand Masters.</i>
EDWARD GUSTINE,		
EZRA HUNTINGTON,		
ELI DODGE,		
RUFUS L. BARTLETT,		

There being a constitutional number of Grand Officers and representatives of subordinate lodges present, the M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, W. and Rev. Bro. GEO. S. HILLS, officiating as Grand Chaplain.

On motion, *Voted*, That all Master Masons in the city in regular standing, be admitted to seats in the Grand Lodge during its present session.

The committee on credentials consisting of Brothers EDWARD PARKER and A. S. BALLANTYNE, reported the

following officers and representatives of subordinate lodges and visiting brethren present, and entitled to seats in the Grand Lodge.

REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

SAMUEL S. FLETCHER, *W. Master.*

Benevolent Lodge, No. 7.

WILLIAM LANE, *Representative.*

Hiram Lodge, No. 9.

B. F. WHITCOMB, *Senior Warden,*

Mount Cube Lodge, No. 10.

S. C. DEMICK, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
HARVEY STETSON, *Junior Warden.*

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 14,

EDWIN A. JONES, *W. Master.*

SUMNER E. PHILBRICK, *Senior Warden,*
RICHARD O. MESSER, *Representative,*

Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 15.

ALBERT S. WAITE, *W. Master.*

HIRAM SARGENT, *Representative.*

Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

HIRAM CLARK, *Senior Warden,*

Sullivan Lodge, No. 19.

JOHN L. SHACKFORD, *W. Master.*
 HENRY F. HOPKINS, *Senior Warden.*
 GILMAN B. JOHNSON, *Junior Warden.*
 GEORGE E. LAWRENCE, *Representative.*

Humane Lodge, No. 21.

TOBIAS D. FOSS, *Representative.*

Mount Moriah, No. 22.

STEPHEN FELLOWS, *Representative.*

Cheshire Lodge, No. 23.

ALBION P. WOOD, *W. Master.*
 MERVIN G. DAY, *Senior Warden.*

Bethel Lodge, No. 24.

WARREN PRATT, *Representative.*

Altemont Lodge, No. 26.

ISAAC F. PRESTON, *W. Master.*
 NATHAN C. FORBUSH, *Senior Warden.*
 JAMES TEMPLETON, *proxy for Junior Warden.*

St. Peter's Lodge, No. 31.

BENJAMIN T. PUTNEY, *W. Master.*
 ROBERT LEVISTON, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
 JOHN E. FRENCH, *Representative.*

*Mount Lebanon Lodge, No. 32.*GEORGE B. LANE, *proxy for W. Master.*GEORGE E. CHASE, *Senior Warden.*HAZEN COPP, *Representative.**Harmony Lodge, No. 38.*JOHN F. CHASE, *W. Master.*JOHN GOODALE, *Senior Warden.**Rising Sun Lodge, No. 39.*EDWARD PARKER, *W. Master.*HENRY M. DAVIS, *Senior Warden.*FRANK A. McKEAN, *Junior Warden.*NATHAN H. FOSTER, *Representative.**Lafayette Lodge, No. 41.*C. F. WARREN, *W. Master.*WM. B. LANE, *Senior Warden.*D. O. FURNALD, *Junior Warden.*JACOB B. HARTWELL, *Representative.**Social Friend's Lodge, No. 42.*CHARLES S. COBURN, *W. Master.*ELISHA AYRE, *Senior Warden.*LEONARD J. TUTTLE, *Junior Warden.**Aurora Lodge, No. 43,*GEORGE L. KIMBALL, *W. Master.*DANIEL JOHNSON, *Senior Warden.*GILMAN GEORGE, *Junior Warden.*JOHN F. JONES, *Representative.*

St. Mark's Lodge, No. 44.

WILLIAM H. BRICKETT, *W. Master.*
GEORGE W. BARKER, *Senior Warden.*
LEWIS S. MORRIS, *Junior Warden.*

Pacific Lodge, No. 45.

AUGUSTUS H. BIXBY, *W. Master.*

Libanus Lodge, No. 49.

STEPHEN S. CHICK, *Representative.*

St. Andrews Lodge, No. 56.

JAMES W. LORD, *W. Master.*
HENRY C. WALKER, *Senior Warden.*
JOSEPH CHEEVER, *Junior Warden.*
JOSEPH B. ADAMS, *Representative.*

Charter Oak Lodge, No. 58.

JOSEPHUS L. DRAKE, *Representative.*

Star in the East Lodge, No. 59.

CHARLES G. CONNER, *W. Master.*
JOHN J. BELL, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
JOSEPH S. PARSONS, *Junior Warden,*

Meridian Lodge, No. 60,

EDWIN C. STONE, *Senior Warden.*
FRANK H. DANIELL, *Junior Warden.*
JOHN C. NEAL, *Representative.*

Washington Lodge, No. 61.

ISAAC W. SMITH, *W. Master.*
JOSEPH KIDDER, *Senior Warden.*
ANDREW BUNTON, *Junior Warden.*
JAMES M. VARNUM, *Representative.*

Unity Lodge, No. 62.

ASA M. BRACKETT, *W. Master.*
HERBERT F. STEVENS, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
GEORGE E. COTTON, *proxy for Junior Warden.*

Burns' Lodge, No. 66.

CHAUNCY H. GREENE, *W. Master.*
JAMES J. BARRETT, *proxy for Senior Warden.*

Mount Prospect Lodge, No. 69.

JOSEPH S. MORRISON, *W. Master.*

Horace Chase Lodge, No. 72.

GILMAN H. DIMOND, *Junior Warden.*

Ossipee Valley Lodge, No. 74.

JOHN C. BICKFORD, *W. Master.*

Rockingham Lodge, No. 76.

A. FRANK PATTEN, *proxy for W. Master.*
RUFUS E. PATTEN, *Senior Warden.*
JAMES T. DUDLEY, *Junior Warden.*
JOHN H. NUTTING, *Representative.*

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 77.

EDWARD BISHOP, *Senior Warden.*
 JOHN H. HILLMAN, *Representative.*

Doric Lodge, No. 78.

ADAM S. BALLANTYNE, *W. Master.*

Union Lodge, No. 79.

MOSES H. MERROW, *W. Master.*

Monadnock Lodge, No. 80.

JOHN CLEMENT, *W. Master.*
 REUBEN PRATT, *Junior Warden.*

Kearsarge Lodge, No. 81.

CHARLTON W. WOODBURY, *W. Master.*
 GEORGE F. SLEEPER, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
 JOSEPH BAKER, *proxy for Junior Warden.*
 GEORGE SLEEPER, *Representative.*

Corinthian Lodge, No. 82.

JOSEPH P. ROBY, *W. Master.*
 SYLVANUS SMITH, *Representative.*

Gideon Lodge, No. 84.

SAMUEL E. WOODMAN, *proxy for W. Master.*
 JOSEPH B. CURRIER, *Senior Warden.*

Spicket Lodge, No. 85.

GEORGE H. WHITNEY, *W. Master.*
 JAMES A. TROY, *Senior Warden.*
 GEORGE C. GORDON, *Junior Warden.*
 JAMES AYER, *Representative.*

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers I. W. SMITH and SAMUEL S. FLETCHER, to fill vacancies in the committee on lodges.

A petition for the removal of Sullivan Lodge, No. 19, from Lee to Epping was presented, and referred to the committee on lodges.

R. W. Bro. JESSENAH KITTREDGE offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to procure a Steel Plate engraving of his Photograph at the expense of this Grand Lodge, obtain printed impressions from said Plate, and cause to be bound as a frontispiece one copy in each number of the second volume of the reprinted proceedings now in course of publication, and that he be authorized to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for a sum sufficient to cover the expense.

The Grand Secretary presented the bill of Bro. C. F. LIVINGSTON, for printing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 1868, amounting to \$592.01. Bros. J. D. PARKER and O. C. FISHER, were appointed substitutes for absent members of the finance committee.

The Grand Secretary presented a communication from several brethren in Maryland, cautioning the Lodges in this jurisdiction against imposition of one JOHN BUXTON a resident of Chester, whom they represent as an unworthy character.

The Grand Secretary then proposed to present sundry other communications relating to suspensions, expulsions, amendment of by-laws and other matters, which on motion were postponed till the annual communication in June next.

Called from labor to refreshment until two o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON.

At two o'clock p. m. the Grand Lodge reassembled and resumed labor.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge were suspended for the purpose of exemplifying the work on the Entered Apprentice Degree, when Bro. Wm. BARRETT, R. W. Junior Warden was called to the East, who proceeded to open a Lodge of E. A. in behalf of Washington Lodge, No. 61,— the following brethren officiating as officers of the Lodge. Bros. N. W. CUMNER, *as Senior Warden*; A. M. WINN, *as Junior Warden*; D. R. MARSHALL, *as Treasurer*; C. F. LIVINGSTON, *as Secretary*; CHARLES M. ROBINSON, *as Senior Deacon*; ANDREW BUNTON, *as Junior Deacon*.

The Lodge being opened, Mr. HENRY J. YOUNG, a candidate furnished by Washington Lodge, was admitted and made a Mason in due and ancient form.

While the candidate was being prepared, Bros. A. S. WAITE and A. M. BRACKETT rehearsed a part of the lecture in the first degree of Masonry.

The Lodge was then closed and the Grand Lodge resumed labor.

The committee on credentials in addition to the foregoing Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers and Representatives of lodges, made the following report of visiting brethren in attendance, and entitled to seats in the Grand Lodge, which was accepted.

EDWARD AIKEN, *Benevolent*, No. 7; A. J. HALL, *Olive Branch*, No. 16; CORNELIUS COOLEGE, *Harmony*, No. 38; N. M. AMES, *Rising Sun*, No. 39; GEORGE ABBOTT, ROBERT G. ANNAN, HENRY A. BAILEY, CHARLES S. BAKER, NATHANIEL

BAKER, DANIEL BALCH, A. A. BALCH, RUFUS L. BARTLETT, OTIS BARTON, STEPHEN J. BATCHELDER, JOSEPH E. BENNETT, NATHAN B. BICKFORD, EDWARD S. BLANCHARD, BENJAMIN P. BROOKS, J. FRANK BROWN, JOHN N. BRUCE, LEWIS E. BRYANT, DAVID T. BURLEIGH, HENRY A. CAMPBELL, WILLIAM N. CHAMBERLIN, ALBERT B. CHASE, JOSEPH B. CILLEY, HARRY M. CLARK, JESSE M. COBURN, WILLIAM W. COLBURN, GEORGE COLBY, HENRY COLBY, J. LANGDON COX, WOODBRIDGE CRESSEY, DAVID CROSS, HARVEY L. CURRIER, EMIL CUSTER, GEORGE W. DODGE, REUBEN DODGE, ISRAEL DOW, THOMAS DUNLAP, JOSEPH T. DURGIN, CLARENCE M. EDGERLY, JOSEPH G. EDGERLY, WILLIAM G. EVERETT, JOHN U. FARNHAM, GIDEON FLANDERS, MATTHEW FORSAITH, SAMUEL C. FORSAITH, JOSEPH FRESCHL, JAMES D. GAGE, WILLIAM G. GARMON, MATTHEW GAULT, ALPHEUS GAY, HORACE M. GILLIS, JOHN GILLIS, CHARLES M. GORDON, SYLVESTER C. GOULD, JAMES HARVELL, WILLIAM E. HAZEN, ROBERT HEATH, ISAAC L. HEATH, WILLIAM J. HICKOK, FREEMAN HIGGINS, BUSHROD W. HILL, EDWIN H. HOBBS, JOHN HOSLEY, EZRA HUNTINGTON, JOHN IRWIN, LEMUEL H. JAMES, BENJAMIN C. KENDALL, WILLIAM E. KILLEY, GEORGE C. KIMBALL, JOHN W. LANE, THOMAS W. LANE, THOMAS A. LANE, A. JUDSON LANE, HENRY LEWIS, GEORGE F. LORD, SAMUEL C. LOWELL, JOHN C. LYFORD, REUBEN S. MARSHALL, DANIEL H. MAXFIELD, IRA J. MCALISTER, CHARLES F. MCCOY, JOHN K. MCQUESTION, DAVID A. MESSEY, JAMES MITCHELL, JR., ROBERT F. MOORE, GEORGE F. MOORE, THOMAS S. MONTGOMERY, GEORGE MORGAN, BARTLETT A. MORSE, DAVID MOULTON, EMERSON MOULTON, HENRY T. MOWATT, GEORGE MURDOUGH, SAMUEL F. MURRY, JOHN P. NEWELL, GEORGE W. NICHOLS, THOMAS R. NORTHRUP, ISAAC C. NOYES, CHARLES OSGOOD, CHARLES OSBREY, CHARLES W. PAIGE, WILLIAM S. PALMER, WILLIAM B. PATTEN, WILLIAM R. PATTEN, JOHN D. PATTERSON, JOHN PATTEE, MOSES O. PEARSON, WILLIAM G. PERRY, THOMAS PILLSBURY, CHARLES P. PORTER, WILLIAM A. POTTER, JOHN B. PRESCOTT, JAMES W. PRESTON, JOHN D. POWELL, GEORGE W. QUINBY, ISAAC QUINT, JOHN H. RAND, FRANK H. REDFIELD, EDWIN P. RICHARDSON, FRANK T. E. RICHARDSON, GEORGE W. RIDDLE, WILLIAM P. RIDDLE, GILMAN E. RIDDLE, BENJAMIN W. ROBINSON, GEORGE P. ROCKWELL, HENRY W. ROWE, EDSON W. SANBORN, HENRY H. SCRIBNER, WILLIAM SHEPHERD,

WILLIAM SHORT, GILMAN STEARNS, HENRY F. STRAW, JOEL TAYLOR, ANDREW J. TEBBETTS, M. G. J. TEWKSBURY, GEORGE W. THAYER, MOSES WADLEIGH, GEORGE W. WEEKS, JOHN K. WILSON, THOMAS WILSON, GEORGE W. WITHAM, PETER O. WOODMAN, *Lafayette*, No. 41; ALDEN S. WOOD, HORACE B. JOHNSON, DAVID S. CLARK, JOHN CAMPBELL, *St. Mark's*, No. 44; E. W. COLEBURN, B. F. WOODBURY, *Pacific*, No. 45; NATH'L FAXON, *Carroll*, No. 57; R. M. DAVIS, GEORGE D. STACKPOLE, *Meridian*, No. 60; FRED'K B. BALCH, FRED'K W. BATCHELDER, SAMUEL N. BELL, CHAS. G. BLAKE, ALPHEUS BODWELL, LORING B. BODWELL, THOS. P. BADGER, LUTHER H. BROWN, CHAS. BUNTON, GEO. B. CHANDLER, JOHN M. CHANDLER, BRADBURY P. CILLEY, NATH'L W. CUMNER, B. FRANK CURRIER, JOSEPH S. DOOLITTLE, FRED. C. DOW, OSCAR G. FARMER, JOSEPH W. FELLOWS, EBENEZER FERREN, JOHN W. FORBES, HIRAM FORSAITH, HAZEN K. FULLER, J. FRANK GORDON, JOSEPH A. HAINES, E. W. HARRINGTON, NATT HEAD, ALBE C. HEATH, FRANK D. HEATH, EDWIN L. HILL, WILLIAM H. HILL, JAMES HOLMES, BENJAMIN K. HOYT, HORACE HUBBARD, NATHAN P. HUNT, WILBERFORCE IRELAND, ALBERT JACKSON, STEVENS JAMES, SAMUEL W. JONES, JOHN S. KIDDER, SAMUEL B. KIDDER, EZRA KIMBALL, J. W. D. KNOWLTON, DANIEL W. LANE, CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON, FREDERICK S. MANNING, GRANVILLE P. MASON, JOHN MOOR, THOMAS MORGAN, JOHN T. NESMITH, A. P. OLZENDAM, SAMUEL A. ORDWAY, JOHN PATTERSON, WILLIAM H. PLUMER, J. Q. A. SARGENT, CHARLES H. SCOTT, FREDERICK SMITH, JOHN T. SPOFFORD, JOHN V. SULLIVAN, CLINTON W. STANLEY, DANIEL F. STRAW, BENJAMIN M. TILLOTSON, GEORGE H. TRUE, S. G. WALKER, F. H. WEBSTER, A. H. WESTON, JAS. A. WESTON, WM. WHITE, J. W. WILKINS, D. H. LANG, JAMES R. BATCHELDER, *Washington*, No. 61; I. S. YOUNG, A. P. GILMAN, S. POOR, A. W. BROWN, *Rockingham*, No. 76; WILLIAM DYER, A. P. SHATTUCK, ROBERT FORD, E. S. DICKENSON, J. H. EMMONS, *Union* No. 79; O. P. PATTEN, *Gideon*, No. 84; CHAS. C. TALBOT, D. N. ROSS, LEVI CLOUGH, *Spicket*, No. 85; HENRY SEAMAN, *Waterloo*, No. 105, *Iowa*; JOHN G. LANE, *Peoria*, No. 15, *Illinois*; J. H. THURBER, *Montgomery Lodge*, *Milford, Mass.*; N. B. HOUGHTON, *Grecian Lodge*, and F. E. WHEELER, *Tuscan Lodge*, *Lawrence, Mass.*; ALDEN S. WOOD.

The committee on lodges then made the following report which was accepted, and a resolution presented by said committee was adopted.

R E P O R T.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire :

The undersigned, committee upon lodges, to whom was referred the petition of Sullivan Lodge, No. 19, of Lee, for removal to Epping, having attended to the duty assigned them, respectfully present the following report :

Your committee met the officers and several of the members of Sullivan Lodge, also several of the members of Star in the East Lodge of Exeter.

It appeared to your committee that the petition is signed by nineteen of the twenty-six members of Sullivan Lodge; that a special communication of said lodge was holden on the 26th of November last, of which every member was duly notified, and at which it was unanimously voted to petition this M. W. Grand Lodge for leave to remove said Lodge from Lee to Epping; that the consent of Rising Star Lodge, No. 47, of New Market, was granted March 27, 1868, and of Strafford Lodge, No. 29, of Dover, October 29th, 1868, they being the two nearest lodges, as required by article 5, section 3 of the constitution of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and that the distance to which it is proposed to remove the lodge is three and one half miles. The petitioners assign as reasons for the removal—

1st. That there is no suitable place in Lee that can be procured for a lodge, the meetings of said lodge being held in the front chamber of a farm house.

2d. That but few of the members reside in Lee, and of those who do reside in Lee all but two are too old and infirm to attend the meetings of the Lodge.

3d. That most of the members, and nearly all of the working members reside in Epping, and in the immediate vicinity of the place where it is proposed to locate the lodge, if removed.

Your committee find all these allegations proved.

The lodge room at Lee is 15 by 16 feet in size, and is in the second story of a dwelling house. If removed to Epping the

lodge would be accommodated in a hall 20 by 24 feet which can be enlarged to 20 by 30 feet with suitable ante-rooms, in a good and retired location.

At the last annual communication of this M. W. Grand Lodge in June last, the following vote was passed.

Whereas, Sullivan Lodge, No. 19, for the year last past has neglected to meet for work and the election of officers, or to make returns to this Grand Lodge, therefore

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge declare the charter of Sullivan Lodge, No. 19, forfeited, and that said Lodge be stricken from the roll of subordinate lodges.

Some three months since the charter of said lodge was revived by the M. W. Grand Master, since which time this lodge has made some ten or twelve Masons.

There was no opposition before your committee from any one to the removal asked for. Some of the members of Star in the East Lodge expressed a fear that there might not be suitable persons in Epping and vicinity of which to make a flourishing lodge, and for the lack of such, improper persons might possibly in time be received to the detriment of the craft.

Your committee however find that if removed it would embrace within its jurisdiction the towns of Epping, Lee, Nottingham, Fremont, and parts of Raymond, Northwood and Brentwood, and from representations made to your committee they entertain no doubt that the lodge if removed to Epping would be a flourishing lodge, and an ornament to the frateruity of lodges.

This is an ancient lodge, having been chartered in 1807, and has done much valuable service to the craft. The time for its usefulness in Lee, however, seems to have culminated with the death and removal of many of its former members. The question of its continuance seems to have been put at rest by the act of reviving its charter, and your committee are of the opinion that the usefulness of the lodge and of the craft generally, will be promoted by granting the prayer of the petition; and they would therefore recommend the passage of the accompanying resolution.

ISAAC W. SMITH,
JOHN C. NEAL,
SAMUEL S. FLETCHER, } Committee
 } on
 } Lodges.

Manchester, Dec. 29, 1868.

Resolved, That the prayer of the petition of members of Sullivan Lodge, No. 19, for removal from Lee to Epping, be granted.

The business of the Grand Lodge was suspended and a Lodge of Fellow Crafts opened.

R. C. W. N. W. CUMNER was called to the East, who opened a Lodge of Fellow Crafts in due form, assisted by the M. W. Grand Master acting as Senior Warden, R. C. W. C. BARRETT, Junior Warden, Bros. I. W. SMITH and ANDREW BUNTON, Deacons.

Brother FRANK NEWTON, a candidate furnished by Washington Lodge, was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, in due and ancient form.

The Lodge of Fellow Crafts was then closed in due form.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until seven o'clock in the evening.

EVENING.

At seven o'clock the Grand Lodge reassembled and suspended business, and a Lodge of Master Masons was opened in due form by R. C. W. JOHN R. HOLBROOK, acting as W. Master, assisted by Bros. N. W. CUMNER in the West, WM. BARRETT in the South, Brothers E. GUSTINE and A. BUNTON acting as Deacons.

Bro. GEORGE C. KIMBALL, a candidate furnished by Lafayette Lodge, No. 41, was introduced and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in due and ancient form.

The Grand Officers repaired to their respective stations and the Grand Lodge resumed business.

Bro. J. W. DEARBORN presented the following resolution which was adopted.

Resolved, That the chairman of the committee on clothing and furniture, be authorized to draw an order on the Grand Treasurer for the amount of expenses incurred by them, by order of the Grand Lodge at the June session.

The Committee on Finance reported in favor of allowing the bill of Bro. C. F. LIVINGSTON of \$592.01, which was accepted and the same ordered to be paid.

R. W. RUFUS L. BARTLETT submitted the following question for the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

Is it in accordance with Masonic law to confer the degree of E. A., F. C. or M. M. upon more than five candidates at one and the same communication? Which was referred to the committee on jurisprudence.

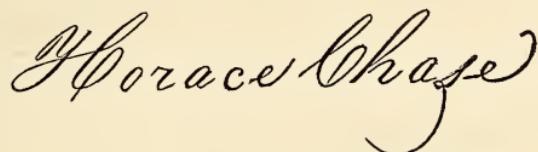
The M. W. Grand Master decided that, in the mean time, no more than five candidates shall be admitted at the same meeting in any degree.

Bro. Wm. BARRETT raised the question whether a candidate for the honors of Masonry could be permitted to withdraw his application after the same had been received and placed on file in the Lodge, when the M. W. Master also decided that no gentleman could withdraw his application, but that all applications for the honors of Masonry, after being received and filed, must come to a ballot; and the Grand Secretary was instructed to examine carefully

the records to see if the Grand Lodge had taken action upon this matter.

There being no further business before the Grand Lodge, the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

A true record. Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Horace Chase".

Grand Secretary.



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OF THE

M. W. GRAND LODGE

OF THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASON

OF THE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

AT THE

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, JUNE 9 AND 10,

A. J.

5869.



ALEXANDER M. WINN, M. D., Manchester, M. W. Grand Master.
Hon. HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, R. W. Grand Secretary.

MANCHESTER, N. H. :
PRINTED BY CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON.
1869.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS,

JUNE, A. L. 5869.

The annual communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, was held at Masonic Temple in Concord, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 10th and 11th days of June, A. D. 1869, A. L. 5869.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

ALEXANDER M. WINN, *M. W. Grand Master.*

JOHN R. HOBROOK, *R. W. Deputy Grand Master.*

N. W. CUMNER, *R. W. Sen. Grand Warden.*

WM. BARRETT, *R. W. Jun. Grand Warden.*

JOHN KNOWLTON, *R. W. Grand Treasurer.*

HORACE CHASE, *R. W. Grand Secretary.*

R. W. District Deputy Grand Masters.

JEREMIAH D. PARKER,.....District No. 1.

CLINTON W. STANLEY,..... " " 2.

NATHAN HUTCHINSON,..... " " 4.

J. W. DEARBORN,..... " " 6.

JESSENIAH KITTREDGE,..... " " 7.

MARK S. AIKEN,..... " " 9.

R. W. Grand Lecturers.

JOHN A. HARRIS,.....	District No.	5.
A. M. BRACKETT,.....	"	6.
LELAND J. GRAVES,.....	"	7.
ALBERT S. WAITE,.....	"	8.
HIRAM CLARK,.....	"	9.
ALBERT BARKER,.....	"	10.

W. EDWARD GUSTINE, Sen. Grand Deacon.

" DANIEL W. EDGERLY,	}	<i>Grand Stewards.</i>
" JOSEPH W. ROBINSON,		
" J. D. MARCH,		
" T. D. FOSS,		
" DANIEL R. MARSHALL,		
" EDMUND P. HUTCHINSON, <i>Grand Marshal.</i>		
" LUTHER W. NICHOLS, <i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>		
" OLIVER A. WOODBURY, <i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>		
Bro. GEORGE L. REED, <i>Grand Tyler.</i>		

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

ISRAEL HUNT,	}	<i>M. W. Past Grand Masters.</i>
HORACE CHASE,		
JOHN H. ROWELL,		
JOSIAH MORSE, <i>P. Grand Senior Warden.</i>	}	<i>R. W. Past D. D. Grand Masters.</i>
LEWIS WOODMAN,		
CHARLES LANE,		
DAVID MURRAY,		
JOHN M. HUNT,		
ABEL HUTCHINS,		
C. K. DRAKE,		
JOHN WILDER,		
HENRY O. KENT,		
ELI DODGE,		
HAZEN BEDEL,		
J. B. EDGERLY,		
CHAS. H. BURNS,		
THOS. J. SMITH,		

OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

CHAS. G. PICKERING, *proxy for W. Master.*
 JOHN H. CHEEVER, *Senior Warden.*
 EDWIN D. COFFIN, *Junior Warden.*
 A. J. HILL, *Representative.*

Franklin Lodge, No. 6.

ADONIRAM SMALLEY, *proxy for W. Master.*
 GEORGE F. BEAN, *Junior Warden.*
 A. W. BAKER, *Representative.*

Benevolent Lodge, No. 7.

J. L. SPRING, *proxy for W. Master.*

North Star Lodge, No. 8.

EDWARD SAVAGE, *W. Master.*
 CHAS. L. PLAISTED, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
 W. COBLEIGH, *Junior Warden.*
 L. H. LEGRO, *Representative.*

Hiram Lodge, No. 9.

FRANCIS WHITCOMB, *W. Master.*
 GEO. O. WOODCOCK, *Senior Warden.*
 JOHN W. COLLINS, *proxy for Junior Warden.*
 C. H. LONG, *Representative.*

Blazing Star Lodge, No. 11.

JOHN A. HARRIS, *W. Master.*
 SAMUEL F. MORRILL, *Senior Warden.*
 HORACE A. BROWN, *Junior Warden.*
 JONA. F. COTTON, *Representative.*

Faithful Lodge, No. 12.

GEORGE S. BOND, *W. Master.*

EDWIN P. GEROULD, *proxy for Junior Warden.*

LOREN H. ROYCE, *Representative.*

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 14.

EDWIN A. JONES, *W. Master.*

S. E. PHILBRICK, *Senior Warden.*

M. L. WALKER, *Representative.*

Mount Vernon Lodge, No, 15.

JOSIAH TURNER, *Senior Warden.*

ARTHUR H. INGRAM, *Junior Warden.*

DANIEL A. GEORGE, *Representative.*

Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

HIRAM CLARK, *W. Master.*

Morning Star Lodge, No. 17.

JOHN W. AVERY, *proxy for Junior Warden.*

JOHN H. RUST, *Representative.*

Charity Lodge, No. 18.

FREDERICK W. BAILEY, *Representative.*

Sullivan Lodge, No. 19.

H. F. HOPKINS, *W. Master.*

GILMAN B. JOHNSON, *Senior Warden.*

JAMES M. GODFREY, *proxy for Junior Warden.*

JOHN L. SHACKFORD, *Representative.*

Humane Lodge, No. 21.

NOAH TEBBETTS, *proxy for W. Master.*
T. D. FOSS, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
E. P. HODGDON, *proxy for Junior Warden.*
SILAS HUSSEY, *Representative.*

Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 22.

STEPHEN FELLOWS, *W. Master.*
BYRON FELLOWS, *Representative.*

Cheshire Lodge, No. 23.

A. P. WOOD, *W. Master.*
GEO. E. HILLIARD, *Junior Warden.*

Bethel Lodge, No. 24.

N. Y. OLIVER, *W. Master.*
JAMES O. REED, *Representative.*

Altemont Lodge, No. 26.

AUGUSTUS FULLER, *proxy for W. Master.*

Strafford Lodge, No. 29.

GEO. W. TASH, *W. Master.*
WM. R. TAPLEY, *Senior Warden.*
CHAS. H. SAWYER, *Junior Warden.*
SAMUEL M. WHEELER, *Representative.*

St. Peter's Lodge, No. 31.

JAMES M. SAWYER, *Representative.*

Mount Lebanon Lodge, No. 32.

A. DOLLOFF, *W. Master.*
 J. C. BLAKE, *Senior Warden.*
 R. R. SOMES, *Junior Warden.*
 E. E. WEBSTER, *Representative.*

Evening Star Lodge, No. 37.

HAZEN BEDEL, *W. Master.*
 WM. S. ROLFE, *Representative.*

Harmony Lodge, No. 38.

ABEL FARLEY, *Representative.*

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 39.

HENRY M. DAVIS, *W. Master.*
 JACOB LIBBEY, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
 O. A. WOODBURY, *Junior Warden.*
 JOHN A. SPAULDING, *Representative.*

Philesian Lodge, No. 40.

EDWARD ALEXANDER, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
 ELLERY ALBEE, *proxy for Junior Warden.*
 E. M. FORBES, *Representative.*

Lafayette Lodge, No. 41.

WM. B. LANE, *W. Master.*
 C. F. WARREN, *Representative.*

Social Friends Lodge, No. 42.

CHARLES S. COBURN, *W. Master.*
 ELISHA AYER, *Senior Warden.*
 LEONARD J. TUTTLE, *Junior Warden.*
 SOLON A. CARTER, *Representative.*

Aurora Lodge, No. 43.

ALBERT B. JOHNSON, *Junior Warden.*

DANIEL JOHNSON, *Representative.*

St. Mark's Lodge, No. 44.

JOHN D. ORDWAY, *Senior Warden.*

GREENLEAF C. BARTLETT, *Junior Warden.*

Pacific Lodge, No. 45.

A. H. BIXBY, *W. Master.*

S. D. DOWNES, *proxy for Senior Warden.*

T. W. ORDWAY, *Junior Warden.*

Grafton Lodge, No. 46.

GEORGE F. PUTNAM, *Representative.*

Rising Star Lodge, No. 47.

BENJ. F. WATSON, *proxy for W. Master.*

THOMAS TUTTLE, *Senior Warden.*

C. H. TRICKEY, *proxy for Junior Warden.*

Libanus Lodge, No. 49.

JAMES G. YOUNG, *Senior Warden.*

STEPHEN S. CHICK, *Representative.*

Social Lodge, No. 50.

O. T. CUMMINGS, *Senior Warden.*

CONVERSE G. MORGAN, *proxy for Junior Warden.*

N. S. WHEELER, *Representative.*

*Clinton Lodge, No. 52.*GEORGE S. NEVILLE, *W. Master.*DANIEL CRAGIN, *proxy for Senior Warden.*D. W. RUSSELL, *Junior Warden.*A. E. JAQUES, *Representative.**Columbian Lodge, No. 53.*GEORGE RUST, *proxy for W. Master.*GEORGE B. HOLLAND, *Representative.**St. Andrews Lodge, No. 56.*JAMES W. LORD, *W. Master.*J. B. ADAMS, *Representative.**Charter Oak Lodge, No. 58.*ALDO M. RUMNEY, *Representative.**Star in the East Lodge, No. 59.*CHARLES G. CONNER, *W. Master.*CHARLES C. HUNKINS, *proxy for Senior Warden.*EBEN. FOLSOM, *proxy for Junior Warden.*JOHN J. BELL, *Representative.**Meridian Lodge, No. 60.*FRANK H. DANIELL, *Senior Warden.*JOHN C. NEAL, *Representative.**Washington Lodge, No. 61.*JOSEPH KIDDER, *W. Master.*ANDREW BUNTON, *Senior Warden.*GEORGE B. CHANDLER, *Junior Warden.*ISAAC W. SMITH, *Representative.*

Unity Lodge, No. 62.

A. M. BRACKETT, *W. Master.*
CHARLES JONES, *Representative.*

Moosehillock Lodge, No. 63.

L. W. CURRIER, *W. Master.*
MARK L. AIKEN, *Representative.*

Kane Lodge, No. 64.

HIRAM NOYES, *Representative.*

Granite Lodge, No. 65.

JAMES HAMILTON, *Representative.*

Burns Lodge, No. 66.

C. H. GREENE, *W. Master.*
S. B. PAGE, *proxy for Senior Warden.*
FRANK PADDLEFORD, *proxy for Junior Warden.*
C. C. SMITH, *Representative.*

Souhegan Lodge, No. 67.

W. M. SANDERSON, *Representative.*

Red Mountain Lodge, No. 68.

E. Q. FELLOWS, *Representative.*

Mount Prospect Lodge, No. 69.

T. P. CHENEY, *Representative.*

*Eureka Lodge, No. 70.*F. D. WOODBURY, *W. Master.*WILLIAM P. HOIT, *Senior Warden.*JAMES F. GORDON, *Junior Warden.**Fraternal Lodge, No. 71.*LUTHER HAYES, *proxy for W. Master.*D. W. EDGERLY, *Senior Warden.*C. W. TAPLEY, *Junior Warden.*CHARLES H. BOODEY, *Representative.**Horace Chase Lodge, No. 72.*GEO. N. HERBERT, *W. Master.*LEVI N. BARNES, *Senior Warden.*JOHN T. NELSON, *Junior Warden.*R. D. SCALES, *Representative.**Gorham Lodge, No. 73.*ADDISON DALLEY, *Representative.**Ossipee Valley Lodge, No. 74.*J. C. BICKFORD, *W. Master.*FRANK R. HOBBS, *Senior Warden.*FRANK H. LORD, *Representative.**Winnipissiogee Lodge, No. 75.*GEORGE MONTGOMERY, *Representative.**Rockingham Lodge, No. 76.*RUFUS E. PATTEN, *W. Master.*JAMES ADAMS, *Representative.*

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 77.

H. F. HORTON, *proxy for W. Master.*
A. A. THAYER, *Representative.*

Doric Lodge, No. 78.

GEORGE W. MORRISON, *proxy for W. Master.*
J. M. TAYLOR, *Senior Warden.*
B. F. BROWN, *Junior Warden.*
A. S. BALLANTYNE, *Representative.*

Union Lodge, No. 79.

IRA S. CHASE, *proxy for W. Master.*
M. H. MERROW, *Representative.*

Monadnock Lodge, No. 80.

JOHN CLEMENT, *W. Master.*
WM. BUTLER, *Junior Warden.*
A. J. BLAKE, *Representative.*

Kearsarge Lodge, No. 81.

C. W. WOODBURY, *W. Master.*
JOHN B. WADLEIGH, *Senior Warden.*
JOSEPH BAKER, *Junior Warden.*
J. D. PHILBRICK, *Representative.*

Corinthian Lodge, No. 82.

SYLVANUS SMITH, *Representative.*

Chocorua Lodge, No. 83.

H. P. SMITH, *proxy for W. Master.*
W. H. H. FERNALD, *Senior Warden.*
T. C. GORDON, *Representative.*

Gideon Lodge, No. 84.

C. H. SMITH, *proxy for W. Master.*

J. D. CURRIER, *Senior Warden.*

A. DUNN, *Junior Warden.*

J. W. DUDLEY, *Representative.*

Spickett Lodge, No. 85.

G. K. WHITNEY, *W. Master.*

GEO. C. GORDON, *Junior Warden.*

JAMES AYER, *Representative.*

Visiting Brethren.

Brothers N. H. RANDLETT, No. 6; THOMAS RUST, No. 17; H. B. STICKNEY, No. 23; J. H. STEELE, JONAS LIVINGSTON, No. 26; JOS. W. WELCH, CHAS. A. TUFTS, OLIVER WYATT, No. 29; MASON W. TAPPAN, No. 31; H. COPP, G. P. SMITH, No. 32; CHARLES OSBREY, No. 41; A. S. CARPENTER, THOS. E. HATCH, D. H. WARD, HORATIO COLONY, J. S. TAFT, E. E. LYMAN, No. 42; ALLEN PRIDE, BENJ. F. HALEY, No. 47; JEREMIAH CROSS, JOHN P. JEWELL, EPHRAIM G. WALLACE, FRANK S. DODGE, GEORGE E. FELLOWS, No. 60; JOHN M. FORBES, C. F. LIVINGSTON, J. W. FELLOWS, No. 61; JOHN W. F. LOCKE, No. 71; ROBERT FORD, J. N. DICKERSON, STILLMAN CLARK, O. F. MORSE, No. 79; JOHN M. SHIRLEY, C. G. PEIRCE, NATHAN WOODBURY, WM. H. HUNTOON, H. A. WEYMOUTH, JOHN P. CARR, D. C. GOOKIN, No. 81; S. N. LOUGEE, No. 82; NATH'L FAXON, T. B. NEWBY, W. C. EASTMAN.*

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form with prayer by W. and Rev. JAMES ADAMS, acting as Grand Chaplain.

*Brothers FAXON, NEWBY and EASTMAN were reported by the committee as officers of Mt. Washington Lodge, U. D. As such they have no vote in Grand Lodge and are recorded only as visiting brothers, not knowing of what Lodge they are members.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following standing committees :

Committee on Credentials.—Bros. EDWARD PARKER, GEO. W. TASH, JOSIAH B. EDGERLY.

Committee on Unfinished Business.—Bros. J. W. DEARBORN, HAZEN BEDEL, SOLON A. CARTER.

Committee on Lodges.—Bros. CHAS. H. BURNS, WM. B. LANE, JOHN A. HARRIS.

Committee on Finance.—Bros. CHAS. G. PICKERING, JOHN A. SPAULDING, ANDREW BUNTON.

Committee on Jurisprudence.—Bros. CLINTON W. STANLEY, GEORGE N. EASTMAN, HENRY O. KENT.

Committee on Returns.—Bros. CYRUS K. DRAKE, NOAH TEBBETTS, HENRY M. DAVIS.

Committee on Doings of Grand Officers.—Bros. THOS. E. HATCH, JOSEPH W. FELLOWS, JOHN M. SHIRLEY.

On motion of R. W. HENRY O. KENT,

Voted, That the reading of the proceedings of the last annual and semi-annual communications be dispensed with, and that the record of the same as published be approved.

R. W. Bro. GUSTINE offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That all Master Masons in the city in regular standing, be admitted to seats in the Grand Lodge during its present session.

Bro. THOS. E. HATCH presented a petition for a new Lodge at Keene, which was referred to the committee on Lodges.

A petition for the removal of Ossipee Valley Lodge, and accompanying papers, were presented and referred to the committee on Lodges.

Resolutions and papers of Social Friends Lodge, No. 42, remonstrating against the creation of a new Lodge at Keene, were presented and referred to the committee on Lodges.

The Grand Secretary presented the bill of MORRILL & SILSBY, for stationery, &c., which was referred to the committee on finance.

On motion of Bro. BARRETT, the account of MORRILL & SILSBY for printing return tickets was referred to the committee on finance.

The Grand Secretary presented a statement of reprinting, binding &c., of the second volume of proceedings, with the account of Bro. CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON, and his own account of money received, money paid out by him, and for his services, which were referred to the committee on finance.

Bro. TEBBETTS offered the following resolutions which, with amendments suggested and accepted by him, were adopted in the following form :

Resolved, That one copy of the second volume of reprinted proceedings of this Grand Lodge be presented to each Grand Lodge in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, one copy to each subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction, one copy to each Grand Officer of this Grand Lodge, and one copy to each elective Past Grand Officer of this Grand Lodge, free of charge, and that the same be sold to such other brethren as may wish to purchase the same at two dollars per copy.

Resolved, That all subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction that have not received the first volume of reprinted proceedings, shall be furnished with one copy each without charge.

On motion of M. W. Bro. ISRAEL HUNT,

Voted, That two o'clock this afternoon be assigned as the hour to go into the election of Grand Officers.

The M. W. Grand Master then read his annual address, as follows :

A D D R E S S.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge:

Brethren :—Precept, enforced by example, is the most powerful instructor of mankind, and is at the same time the most efficient rebuke to offenders against the laws of God and man. If the precepts of our institution teach those principles which constitute the sum total of sound morality, then how important is it that our example should shine forth a brilliant light to illumine, to guide and to instruct. When the Fathers of our order chose their associates, they selected only those whose example afforded abundant evidence of their being fitted for the noble calling and the elevating duties of the race before them. Let us imitate their example, otherwise we shall increase our numbers without increase of character, usefulness or influence. Positive virtues, and not the mere absence of vice, should characterize the example of all our associates.

The closing Masonic year brings us together to take counsel for the future and to review the past. In this

review I could wish that a better talent and more time might have been brought to the discharge of the duties of the office of Grand Master. I however feel assured that in the exercise of that Masonic charity which characterizes this jurisdiction, you will pass lightly over the deficiencies, omissions and errors of action exhibited, and remember only the very little good I may have done.

Of the three Lodges chartered at our last annual communication, I was present at the institution of Pacific Lodge at Francestown, and installed their officers. By my request, R. W. Bro. STANLEY instituted Spickett Lodge at Salem, and installed their officers. I also requested W. Bro. E. C. KNIGHT to institute White Mountain Lodge, at Whitefield, and install their officers. I, on the 19th of July, restored the charter of Sullivan Lodge at Lee.

By my request, M. W. Bro. C. H. BELL laid the corner stone of at Exeter, on the 4th of July.. On the same day I dedicated the hall of Libanus Lodge, at Somersworth, and publicly installed their officers.

On December 10th, I dedicated the hall of Social Friends Lodge, at Keene.

By my request, R. W. Bro. STANLEY dedicated the hall of Pacific Lodge, at Francestown, and M. W. Bro. ROWELL the hall of Chocorua Lodge, at Meredith.

I have granted dispensations to brethren of North Conway for a new Lodge, to be called Mount Washington Lodge, and to brethren of Keene for a new Lodge, to be called The Lodge of the Temple, both of which expire and will be returned at this time.

I have installed the officers of quite a number of our Lodges, and visited many of them; in all of which I have been received with a kindness, courtesy and hospitality long to be remembered.

By consulting our constitution, general regulations, and proceedings, I have been enabled to decide all questions presented during the past year, and I believe satisfactorily

to the brethren, with one exception. In this instance, brethren whose opinion I value, dissenting. I have referred the question to your committee on jurisprudence, from whom I expect a report at this communication.

Complaint against but one Lodge has been brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge during the past year. In company with our R. W. Deputy Grand Master I visited the Lodge, when we examined the cause of complaint, heard the parties, and adopted such measures and made such suggestions as we at the time thought would promote the best interests of our order.

To my associate officers of the Grand Lodge I offer my earnest thanks, for their very efficient assistance in the discharge of the duties of this office, and to the brethren of the jurisdiction my grateful acknowledgement of their uniform kindness and courtesy, whenever and wherever we met.

Grateful for honors so often by your partiality bestowed, I now as cheerfully return the Grand Master's Gavel as I accepted it one year since.

With humble acknowledgement to the Supreme Grand Master for past blessings and enjoyments, and devout aspirations for their continuance, let us approach the business before us.

Which, on motion, was referred, with the following reports of District Deputy Grand Masters, to the committee on doings of Grand Officers.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWO.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire:

The undersigned, having been honored by the appointment of D. D. G. Master over Lodges Nos. 21, 29, 49, 65, 71, and 75, begs leave to submit the following report.

January 9th, 1869, I visited HUMANE LODGE, No. 21, at Rochester. I found a large number of brethren present, and had an opportunity of witnessing the work in the three degrees, which was well done in due and ancient form. I examined their records, which are well and correctly kept. I am pleased to report this Lodge in a prosperous condition, and they are now fitting and preparing a commodious and beautiful, hall which will be ready for dedication in a few months.

January 25th, 1869, I visited FRATERNAL LODGE, No. 71, at Farmington; found a goodly number of brethren present, and had an opportunity of seeing them work in the third degree, which was well done. I examined their records; found them well and correctly kept.

January 28th, 1869, I visited LIBANUS LODGE, No. 49, at Somersworth. I found an unusually large number of brethren present; had an opportunity of seeing them work in the third degree, which was well done in due and ancient form. I examined their records, found them neatly and correctly kept. The high Masonic and personal character of their present W. Master, is a guarantee that during his administration nothing will be left undone which would be for the good and welfare of the Lodge.

April 22, 1869, I visited WINNIPISSIOGEE LODGE, No. 75, at Alton. Here I found a goodly number of brethren present; witnessed the work in the third degree, which was well done. I examined their records; found them well and correctly kept.

April 27th, I visited GRANITE LODGE, No. 65, at Rollinsford. This being their annual meeting for choice of officers they did no work. I examined their records, which I found very neatly and correctly kept. May 11th, I again visited Granite Lodge, when I had an opportunity of seeing their newly-elected officers work the E. A. degree, which was done in due and ancient form, and in a manner highly commendable and praiseworthy.

STRAFFORD LODGE, No. 29, at Dover. I am a member of this Lodge and have attended most of the communications during the past year. Their work is well done, their records are neatly and correctly kept. I have granted four dispensations during the past year to advance candidates faster than our regulations allow, good and sufficient reasons having been shown me therefor.

In closing my official communiaction with the several Lodges placed under my care, I beg leave to tender to them for their kindness, attention and hospitality, their uniform courtesy and affability, my lasting gratitude.

In conclusion, allow me to say, so far as I have been able to learn, the true Masonic spirit prevails throughout this district, and the outer courts of our sanctuary have been well guarded during the past year.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

JOSEPH HARTFORD, *D. D. G. M.*

DISTRICT NUMBER THREE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire:

The undersigned, having been appointed District Deputy over Lodges Nos. 39, 41, 44, 45, 61, 76 and 85, herewith most respectfully submits his annual report of his doings.

September 3, 1868, I visited, and by order of the M. W. Grand Master, and with his assistance, consecrated, constituted and installed the officers of SPICKETT LODGE, No. 85, at Salem. Since then I have been unable to visit them, but I learn from the W. Master that they have made but two Masons; that they have all indebtedness paid, and have about forty dollars in the treasury. The high character of the W. Master and other officers of this Lodge is a sure guaranty that the work will be well done, and that the ancient usages and landmarks of the craft will be rigidly adhered to, and that none but good men and true will ever be admitted within their Lodge room.

December 3, I visited ST. MARK'S LODGE, No. 44, at Derry, and witnessed the work on the third degree, which in the main was well and correctly done. There was a goodly number of the brethren present, and all manifested an earnest desire to promote the harmony and prosperity of the institution. This Lodge has a comfortable lodge room, suitably furnished, but its members are scattered over a large territory, and its meetings are not so large as they would be were it not for this disadvantage.

They have made, during the past year, ten Masons. Their records are very well kept. They have in the treasury, \$175.00, which is well invested, and all their bills are paid. They have fifty-five members.

March 1, 1869, I visited PACIFIC LODGE, No. 45, at Frances-town, and by order of the M. W. Grand Master dedicated their new lodge rooms. The weather was very severe and the traveling bad, and there were consequently but a few of the brethren present. This Lodge appears to be in a flourishing condition, and from my acquaintance with the officers and brethren, I may safely say that the institution will suffer no detriment at their hands. They have recently erected a fine hall, sufficiently large and commodious for their wants, and have furnished it with great neatness

and good taste. They have made twenty Masons since their last annual communication. They have thirty members. They are owing about seven hundred and fifty dollars, which is held among the members of the Lodge. This debt has been created in consequence of building their hall and furnishing it. I desire to tender my grateful acknowledgments to R. W. Bro. WM. BARRETT, and the brethren who accompanied him from Nashua, for their valuable assistance on the occasion of the dedication of the new hall of that Lodge.

March 30, I visited and witnessed the work on the first degree in ROCKINGHAM LODGE, No. 76, at Candia. This Lodge continues to prosper under the superintendence of W. Bro. JAMES ADAMS. I was much pleased with the strict conformity of their work on this degree with that of the Grand Lodge.

May 11th, I again visited this Lodge and witnessed the work on the third degree, and I am pleased to say that on the first section of this degree the work was in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge, but as to the remaining work on this degree I cannot bestow the same commendation. It was in some particulars entirely different from anything I had ever seen. Upon my first visit, the night was very stormy and the traveling bad, but there was, notwithstanding this, a good attendance. On my second visit the hall was well filled and the brethren, by their presence, their attention to the work, and the order maintained, plainly showed that they were imbued with the spirit of Freemasonry. Their records are very well and correctly kept. They are in debt about three hundred and fifty dollars, which is held by one of the brethren. Their bills are all paid, and they have a lodge room and furniture which would be a credit to any Lodge. Their debt was created in fixing up their hall and providing the furniture. They have made twenty-two Masons the past year.

May 5, I visited RISING SUN LODGE, No. 39, at Nashua, and witnessed the work on the third degree, which was very well done. This Lodge is in a very flourishing condition. They have made twelve Masons during the past year. They have on hand a fund of nearly twenty-five hundred dollars, which is well invested. The records are very well kept.

I have frequently visited LAFAYETTE LODGE, No. 41, and WASHINGTON LODGE, No. 61, of which latter I am a member.

It gives me much pleasure to say that there is no abatement in the zeal and fidelity of the officers and members of these Lodges. They were never in a more prosperous condition than at this time. The records of both Lodges are neatly and accurately kept, and all the officers have striven to maintain the high reputation and to deserve the high encomiums bestowed upon them in previous years. There have been made in Lafayette Lodge, twenty-one, and in Washington, twenty-five Masons, during the past year. The treasurer's account shows that Lafayette Lodge has on hand about two thousand dollars, which is deposited in savings banks. The treasurer's account shows that Washington Lodge has on hand about seven hundred dollars, while during the past year new collars, after the style of those of the Grand Lodge, have been purchased at an expense of about one hundred and seventy-five dollars, and all bills paid.

In conclusion, I would say that harmony and prosperity prevail throughout the various Lodges in my jurisdiction. All the brethren seem imbued with the true spirit of the order, and strive to maintain and preserve the ancient usages and landmarks of the fraternity, believing that by so doing they are but carrying out the precepts of the order, and that in so doing they will become better men, better citizens, and truer and more zealous Christians.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CLINTON W. STANLEY, *D. D. G. M.*

May 15, 1869.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire:

Having been appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the fourth Masonic District, embracing Lodges Nos. 7, 24, 26, 52 and 67, I beg leave to report as follows.

On January 21st, in company with several of my Masonic friends, I visited ALTEMONT LODGE, No. 26, at Peterborough. I found a good number of brethren present; witnessed the work on the third degree, which was well done. After which I installed the officers. The financial condition of this Lodge is sound and the records well kept. I can truly say of this Lodge, that they are in a very flourishing condition.

CLINTON LODGE, No. 52, Wilton. I visited this Lodge on February 4th, installed the officers, and witnessed the work on E. A. degree. This Lodge has made more improvement within the last year than any other Lodge in this District. I am happy to say that the officers of Clinton Lodge are young men of high moral character, and are full of Masonic zeal; their records are neatly kept.

SOUHEGAN LODGE, No. 67, I visited at a special communication in March last, and installed the officers, but have had no opportunity of witnessing their work. I found the records neatly and correctly kept, and the finances carefully attended to.

On the same evening I visited BETHEL LODGE, No. 24, and witnessed the work on the third degree. This Lodge, though among the oldest in the State, is at present laboring under many disadvantages. Its membership is small and scattered over considerable territory. Its proximity to Souhegan Lodge is detrimental to its increase, as the latter is more easy of access. Its hall and furniture are in bad repair, and with so many depressing circumstances it was not to be expected that the work would be done with that enthusiasm and zeal which should characterize Masonic work in order to make a proper impression upon the candidate.

BENEVOLENT LODGE, No. 7, of which I am a member and a constant attendant at all communications, I take pleasure in reporting as being in a very healthy condition, and the best

working Lodge in the district, and I think it will compare favorably with any in the State. February last, I attended a meeting of this Lodge, composed of its members, their ladies and invited guests, and publicly installed the officers. After the installation, a beautiful gold ring was presented to W. M. HINDS (in behalf of the Lodge), for the valuable services he had rendered the Lodge during the past two years. After which the company partook of refreshments. The evening was spent in a very pleasant and agreeable manner. The specie basis of this Lodge is sound, and the records neatly and properly kept.

I have granted but few dispensations during the past year, and then only (for what seemed to me) to be good and sufficient reasons.

In closing, allow me to say that the true spirit of Masonry reigns throughout our borders, and my earnest prayer is, that it may so continue until time shall be no more.

Fraternally yours,

N. HUTCHINSON, *D. D. G. M.*

DISTRICT NUMBER FIVE.

To the M. W. Grand Master of the State of New Hampshire:

When you honored me by appointing me District Deputy Grand Master, it was my intention to attend to the duties of the office with fidelity, and to visit every Lodge within my jurisdiction; but sickness and absence from home, have prevented my attending to the duties of the office as I should otherwise have done. I have only been able to visit the Lodges in my own city, but from frequent inquiry of the officers and members of other Lodges in the jurisdiction, I am satisfied that they are in a prosperous condition. I have granted but three dispensations and those only by and with your consent and advice. I am pleased to say that the Lodges

are more careful and strict in the examination of candidates, which will result in a great benefit to the craft. As I shall probably not be in the jurisdiction the coming year, I respectfully request you to appoint some more worthy brother in my place.

Regretting my inability to fulfill the duties of the important office to which you was pleased to appoint me,

I am very truly and fraternally yours,

GEORGE P. CLEAVES, *D. D. G. M.*

BOSTON, June 7, 1869.

DISTRICT NUMBER SIX.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire:

The undersigned, appointed District Deputy Grand Master over Lodges Nos. 17, 57, 58, 62, 68 and 74, submits the following report.

Have visited all the Lodges above named. Was present at the regular communication of MORNING STAR LODGE, No. 17, at Wolfeborough, in February, and witnessed the work in the third degree, which was performed in a dignified manner, and in accordance with that of this Grand Lodge. This is really one of our best working Lodges; spirit of harmony prevails; lodge meetings well attended; good degree of interest manifested; records very neatly and properly kept by our faithful and venerable Bro. RUST, who has long had charge thereof, and the Lodge seems to be in a very flourishing condition, doing a fair amount of work upon well-selected material. Finances well cared for.

CARROLL LODGE, No. 57, Freedom. Was present as its communication in August, witnessed work in first and second degrees, quite well performed. The finances are in good condition; records well made. Was present, and publicly installed its officers on the afternoon of May 27, assisted by Past Grand Master

ROWELL, whom I unexpectedly met at that place, and Brothers EMERSON and DRAKE, of Charter Oak. I am sorry to report a spirit of discord in this Lodge; should it long continue the Lodge will not only suffer, but Masonry be brought into disrepute.

CHARTER OAK LODGE, No. 58, Effingham. Am a member of this Lodge, and have attended all its communications for the past year. There has been but a small amount of work performed, but the meetings have been well attended and harmony has prevailed. Records well kept by their faithful Secretary, Bro. MOORE, whose efficiency was acknowledged at our last annual communication by his eighth re-election. It is and has ever been the object of the officers of this Lodge to conform strictly to the phraseology of the Grand Lodge ritual, and we think their work will bear a favorable comparison with that of any Lodge in this district. The N. E. M. C. Institute at this place merits the patronage of the craft. It is under the care of excellent teachers, and its advantages are equal to those offered by any of our seminaries. Charter Oak Lodge has paid from its *charity-fund* the tuition of all orphan children of Master Masons, who have availed themselves of the privileges conferred by the Institute.

UNITY LODGE, No. 62, Wakefield. Visited at its regular communication in January, and witnessed work in the third degree. M. W. Grand Master WINN was present, and a large delegation of visiting brethren from sister Lodges. This Lodge has an efficient board of officers; works well; records and finances in good condition; harmony prevailing; attendance fair; doing a good amount of work; very cautious in its selection of material, and we entertain no fears of its prosperity.

Visited RED MOUNTAIN LODGE, No. 68, Sandwich, at its regular communication in May. Installed its officers and witnessed work in second and third degrees. This Lodge, although not doing a large amount of work, is yet very careful in regard to *quality* of material selected. Few Lodges in this particular can produce so fair a record. The meetings are not very fully attended as its members are mostly business men and scattered over considerable territory, yet there is a unity of effort. Its finances are properly cared for and its records a *model*. I have the vanity to believe that for chirography and terseness, no Lodge in the State can furnish superior. They are, and have ever been, in the

handwriting and under the supervision of Bro. C. C. FELLOWS, Past D. D. Grand Master. This Lodge can but succeed.

OSSIPEE VALLEY LODGE, No. 74, Ossipee. Visited it at its regular communication in October, also in December and again in February, when I inspected its work, records, &c. This Lodge has been doing a fair amount of work, yet that noble contention or rather emulation of who best can work and best agree, does not exist to a very great extent. A necessity is felt by the active members of infusing its disordered system with new life and vigor, and in accordance with this view, the necessary vote has been passed and consent of the two nearest Lodges obtained, to remove it to another portion of the town about six miles distant. This subject will come before the Grand Lodge at this session for its consideration. As matters now stand, not only the Lodge but the institution suffers.

By request of M. W. Grand Master WINN, I visited Mr. WASHINGTON LODGE, U. D., at North Conway, on the 3d instant, accompanied by Bro. J. L. DRAKE, of Charter Oak. As the Master was unavoidably absent, we did not see a specimen of their work, but had the pleasure of meeting with quite a number of the officers and members of the Lodge, viewing their records, &c. They have done a good amount of work; officers and members energetic, yet cautious; anxious to know the right way and walk therein; records systematically arranged, and very neatly and properly kept.

We believe that the interests of Masonry have for some time past demanded a Lodge at this place. The territory is quite large and material good. They will ask for a charter at this communication of the Grand Lodge.

We believe most of the Lodges in this district are at fault in regard to the examination of candidates for advancement, being too superficial or altogether omitting the duty.

I hereby return my sincere thanks to the brethren of the several Lodges in this district, who have received and treated me so courteously.

Respectfully and fraternally,

J. W. DEARBORN, D. D. G. M.

DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire:

The undersigned, District Deputy Grand Master of District No. 7, comprising Lodges Nos. 12, 18, 30, 40, 42, 53, 77 and 80, respectfully submits the following report.

CHARITY LODGE, No. 18, Jaffrey, I visited December 23d, 1868. The weather was cold and unpleasant, the attendance was consequently small. I witnessed the work on the M. M. degree, which I am sorry to say was not very well done, and which the W. Master informed me he did not expect would be, for the reason they had not conferred the degree for some time; his S. W. had recently died, and his S. D. was absent. He felt as though they had been left out in the cold, not having been visited for three years. Their records are well kept and their finances in good condition, having a fund of about three hundred dollars. They have a very comfortable lodge room, and I see no reason why they may not do good work if they could devote a little more time to it.

MONADNOCK LODGE, No. 80, at Troy, I visited January 21st, 1869. I witnessed the work on the F. C. and M. M. degrees, which was correctly and elaborately done. Bro. CLEMENT is now serving his third term, and is one of the most correct working Masters in this district. This is a new and one of the youngest Lodges in the State, and was obliged to contract quite a large debt to commence with, but should they be favored as they have been, they will in a few years relieve themselves entirely. They have a very pretty lodge room, which they fitted up at their own expense, and have a lease of it for ten years, free of rent. Their records are well kept, and they have one of the most perfect set of books I have seen.

FAITHFUL LODGE, No. 12, at Charlestown, I visited January 25th. This Lodge has an old charter, revived for the third time some eight years since. Their first Master was instructed in a foreign jurisdiction, and brought with him work differing from that adopted by the Grand Lodge of this State; some of the instruction given by him still shows itself in their work. The officers of the Lodge are anxious to make their work conform to the regulations of the Grand Lodge. I think they have improved

within the last two years, and have no doubt they will in due time eradicate what is foreign. Their records are well kept and their finances in good condition, having paid all their liabilities and have a small amount in the treasury.

ST. PAUL'S LODGE, No. 30, Alstead, I visited February 4th. The day was stormy and few were present. I witnessed the work on the M. M. degree; the work was indifferently done, not as well as usual, they informed me, for the reason the Lodge had not been in a condition to work for a long time. In September they had the misfortune to lose their lodge room, furniture, jewels, charter and in fact everything save the records for the past few years, which happened to be in the hands of the Secretary. Their loss is irreparable, their records being complete for nearly fifty years, not having lost a communication during that time. About three years since they built a new and commodious hall, which involved them in a large debt, which they had reduced somewhat, the insurance on the building hardly paying the balance, so that upon the strictest search they found themselves entirely destitute, and but for the very generous present of a set of jewels by Social Friends Lodge, No. 42 they would have found it difficult to proceed. It is hoped in due time they will be able to procure a new hall and go on with their work.

PHILESIAN LODGE, No. 40, at Winchester, I visited February 23d. I witnessed the work on all the degrees; it was passably done, but not quite as well as I should like to see it. This Lodge owns the hall in which they meet, and have a small amount in the treasury; their records are well kept.

COLUMBIAN LODGE, No. 53, at Walpole, I visited February 24th. This Lodge (of which I am a member) at the time of my visit had not done any work; at that time I witnessed the work on the E. A. degree, which was tolerably done, considering it was the first attempt of the present Master. The charter of this Lodge was revived about seven years since, and in starting it was obliged to contract quite a large debt, which I am happy to say is now removed. The records of the Lodge are well kept.

GOLDEN RULE LODGE, No. 77, Hinsdale, I visited March 11th. I witnessed the work on the M. M. degree. This is a young and active Lodge, but for some reason the work has got strangely mixed up with that of other jurisdictions. It is situated in the

corner of the State, near Massachusetts and Vermont, which is probably the reason. The W. Master was not aware of the fact, not having a ritual of the work in this State, and not having been visited, as he informed me, for two years. I have no doubt he will correct his work immediately.

This Lodge has a very pretty hall and own the entire building in which it is situated, part of which they rent for more than enough to pay the interest on their debt. Their records are well kept.

SOCIAL FRIENDS LODGE, No. 42, at Keene, I visited March 30th. This is by far the largest Lodge in this district and doing the most work. Having resided in this town the past year, I have attended nearly all of their communications and have had an opportunity to see their work; I think I can see a decided improvement since I came here, and should they remain united I see nothing why they may not compare favorably with any Lodge in the State. Within the past year they have removed from their old hall, which was rather small, to a new and spacious one in the same building where there is ample room; they procured new and beautiful jewels and entirely new furnished the hall; in so doing they have expended the funds they had on hand and find themselves with a small debt, which need not give them any trouble, should they have their usual amount of work.

I have visited all the Lodges in this district, officially, once, and some of them in a social way more than once, and it gives me pleasure to say that I have been received with all the respect due to the representatives of the Grand Lodge. I have endeavored to correct such irregularities as I have seen, and given such information as was wanted, whenever called on.

This is a large district, the extreme Lodges being nearly fifty miles apart and some of them inconvenient of access. I have found that quite a number of the Lodges in this district have their charters handsomely framed and suspended in the Lodge room; Is it safe and proper to do so? Two Lodges in this vicinity have lost theirs by fire by so doing.

I visited the LODGE OF THE TEMPLE, a Lodge under dispensation from the M. W. Grand Master, located in this town, May 11th. I granted a dispensation to confer the E. A. degree, for the purpose of improving the officers in the work and lectures. I

witnessed the work, but having no instructions from the Grand Master, I considered my visit merely a social one.

May 18th, I visited SOCIAL FRIENDS LODGE, No. 42, at a special communication, and installed its officers publicly.

May 19th, I attended the annual meeting of COLUMBIAN LODGE, No. 53, and installed its officers.

May 20th, I visited MONADNOCK, No. 80, and installed its officers publicly.

JESSENIAH KITTREDGE, *D. D. G. M.*

Keene, May 28th, 1869.

DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire:

The undersigned, Deputy of District No. 8, respectfully reports that in attending to the duties of his appointment, he has visited the various Lodges in his district, most of them at special communications; has seen work performed or exemplified in them all, with a single exception, and is of the opinion that Masonry in his district is in a prosperous condition, that the Lodges are endeavoring to work the Grand Lodge work, and are accomplishing a steady and healthy growth, and would especially remark with pleasure, that there seems to be generally a growing disposition to scrutinize carefully the character of such as make application for membership, and to refuse admission to unsuitable persons. The strength and benefit of the institution depends vastly more on the character than the numbers of its membership. The utmost order and harmony prevail in the various lodge rooms, and the closest attention was paid to the work while it was going on. The direction of the Grand Lodge in relation to examination of candidates for advancement, has been generally complied with.

*I have been everywhere received with the greatest courtesy, and

both officers and brethren have rendered me every assistance in their power, in my examination.

In regard to individual Lodges. I visited MOUNT VERNON LODGE, No. 15, at Newport, at their regular communication, Monday, April 26th. There was a full attendance and much interest manifested; saw the third degree conferred. Bro. WAITE, Grand Lecturer for this district, is W. Master of this Lodge, and as was to be expected, the work was done with great accuracy; the records are well kept, and the financial condition of the Lodge is excellent, but they much need a better and more commodious hall for meeting.

Monday, May 3d, visited CHESHIRE LODGE, No. 23, at Cornish. Found it in good working order; saw the third degree conferred, agreeably to the New Hampshire ritual; made examination of the records and general condition of the Lodge, and am able to make a favorable report of the same.

Tuesday, May 4th, visited FRANKLIN LODGE, No. 6, at Lebanon. The officers of this Lodge are now upon their third year of service in their present positions, are wide-awake active men, who love the institution for its own sake, and make it a rule to do well whatever they do. They have an excellent hall, fitted up in fine style, and do their work with great promptness and accuracy. This Lodge is every way in a very prosperous condition, and their records are the best kept of any in the district.

Wednesday, May 5th, I visited SOCIAL LODGE, No. 50, at Enfield. The attendance at this Lodge is not large, but they are maintaining themselves in a good and healthy condition, and are endeavoring to do their work according to the directions of the Grand Lodge. Their records are well and tastefully kept.

Thursday, May 6th, visited in the afternoon MOUNT MORIAH LODGE, No. 22, at Grafton. The members of this Lodge are so widely scattered that but few of them assembled and but little was done. There is not here a sufficient attention to the letter of the law and the Masonic ritual. I trust that the next year may witness an improvement in those respects.

On same day, in evening, visited KEARSARGE LODGE, No. 81, at Andover, and found them in excellent working order, doing their work exactly according to the directions of the Grand Lodge. The establishment of their Lodge is of recent date, and

they have fitted up their hall in fine style, making it a very attractive place for meeting. There is in this Lodge every indication of prosperity.

Friday, May 7th, visited KING SOLOMON'S LODGE, No. 14, at Wilmot, and found them under the efficient direction of Bro. E. A. JONES, their W. Master, doing an excellent work and making every effort for improvement in Masonic knowledge. Saw the second degree conferred; the work was well done, and in accordance with the directions of the Grand Lodge.

HIRAM LODGE, No. 9, at Claremont, I have not formally visited as I am a member thereof. This is an old Lodge, and has a large number of members, but the attendance is not so large as is desirable. This Lodge labors under a rather unusual inconvenience, that of having too large a hall. It has done considerable work during the past year, and I think has endeavored to comply with the requirements of the Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

IRA COLBY, JR., *D. D. G. M.*

DISTRICT NUMBER NINE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire:

The undersigned, having been appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the Ninth Masonic District, respectfully submits the following report.

I have visited all the Lodges in this District except CHOCORUA LODGE, at Meredith, which was visited by P. G. M. ROWELL, who dedicated their hall. From him I learn that this Lodge is in a flourishing condition, that they are doing a fair amount of work, and are anxious to excel.

MOUNT PROSPECT LODGE, No. 69, at Holderness. This Lodge I visited at their regular communication in January, accompanied by

R. W. HIRAM CLARK, Grand Lecturer. We found the officers prompt at their several stations, and a goodly number of brethren present; all seemed to meet upon the level. I witnessed their work on the second degree, which was correctly done. After conferring this degree, Bro. CLARK lectured with them, and I was pleased to find them so well posted in the lectures. Their records are well kept, and their finances in a prosperous condition. This Lodge has done but little work during the past Masonic year, believing that a slow and healthy growth is better than a too rapid one.

OLIVE BRANCH LODGE, No. 16, Plymouth, I visited January 26th. I did not have the pleasure of seeing this Lodge work. They have done but little the past year, thinking it better to guard well the outer door, than to find in their building unsuitable material. I found their records well kept, and their lodge room neat and commodious.

MOUNT CUBE LODGE, No. 10, at Orford. This Lodge I visited at their stated communication in September, and also at a special meeting, February 2d, afternoon and evening. Here I found a young Lodge working under an old charter, and anxious to do their work in accordance with the Grand Lodge work. I had the pleasure of seeing them work on the three degrees, and was pleased with the manner in which they did it, each officer at his station, the brethren attentive, and the lectures given with the degrees in an impressive manner. This Lodge has done a large amount of work, which is not to be regretted if they have used the right material; they seem to guard well the outer door, and mean to admit none but the worthy. Their records are well kept and their prospects good for the future.

GRAFTON LODGE, No. 46, Haverhill, I visited at their regular meeting in February, but did not have the pleasure of meeting with them in open Lodge, owing to their meeting in the afternoon, and I did not arrive until the Lodge had closed; but from conversation with the Master and Wardens, I can report them as doing well, adding to their numbers good and worthy men.

KANE LODGE, No. 64, at Lisbon. This Lodge I visited at their regular communication in March. I witnessed their work in the second degree. I was sorry that I could not see them work in the three degrees, for I had so often heard of their good work

that I was anxious to witness it. I found their records well kept. This is a large Lodge, having over two hundred members, and has the largest fund on hand of any Lodge in this district.

BURNS LODGE, No. 66, Littleton, I visited at their regular meeting in March, and found every officer at his station, with a large attendance of the brethren. I do not wonder at the easy and masterly manner in which the work was done here, for when officers and brethren take hold with the zeal they did, it is easy and pleasant for the Master to work. I had the pleasure of witnessing their work on the second and third degrees, which was done in accordance with the Grand Lodge work, and I was pleased to see the promptness with which each one did his part. This Lodge is in a pleasant and growing village, and is constantly adding to its numbers, being careful to admit none but the worthy. They have a large and splendid hall, neatly and tastefully furnished. I found the records in good hands, and finances sound.

MOOSEHILLOCK LODGE, No. 63, of which I am a member, I have attended regularly, unless absent from town. I visited it officially at their annual meeting, and installed their officers, who, I am satisfied, will see to it that this Lodge maintains its former reputation for accuracy in work and zeal for the order. The records remain in the hands of Bro. S. G. CURRIER, who has for many years faithfully and correctly recorded the doings of the Lodge, and the finances are in a prosperous condition.

The Lodges in this district I find, are generally anxious to perfect themselves in the Grand Lodge work and lectures. I have endeavored to impress upon each Lodge the necessity of a uniformity of work, and also the importance of the Grand Lodge resolution requiring candidates for advancement to be examined in open Lodge. I find a diversity of practice in these examinations, some Lodges requiring a greater proficiency than others, but with one exception—the exception being a Lodge which had not heard of this resolution—the examination is made, and some degree of proficiency required. I find the custom of giving the candidate the degrees, and promising him the lectures at some future meeting, somewhat prevalent in this district, which I think is to be regretted, and I hope to see some action taken in this Grand Lodge thereon. There seems to me to be but one time when these lectures can make the right impression.

All the Lodges in this district are, I think, doing well. Perhaps they are not adding to their numbers as fast as in some former years, but they are manifesting a strong desire to participate in the higher principles of the order; harmony prevails, and may we all bear in remembrance and practice those truly Masonic virtues, temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice, ever remembering that we, are "traveling upon the level of time to that undiscovered country, from whose bourn no traveler returns."

Respectfully submitted,

MARK L. AIKEN, *D. D. G. M.*

DISTRICT NUMBER TEN.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire:

The undersigned, having been appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the 10th Masonic district, over Lodges Nos. 8, 37, 73 and 86, respectfully submits the following report.

NORTH STAR LODGE, No. 8, at Lancaster. This is one of the oldest Lodges in the State, and has done an average amount of work during the past year. Notwithstanding the new Lodge formed at Whitefield, has taken quite a number of members from this Lodge, it still has a large membership, and as I learn from W.: M.: SAVAGE, a state of general good feeling and harmony prevails. I did not arrive in season to witness their work, but from their past record it is not behind many of the Lodges in this respect. I examined their records, which are well and neatly kept. Its finances, although small, are well invested.

EVENING STAR LODGE, No. 37, at Colebrook. Owing to unavoidable circumstances I have not had the pleasure of visiting this Lodge the past year. W.: M.: ROLFE informs me that

the Lodge was never in better condition than at the present time. They have done a larger amount of work the past year than ever before. The material worked has been of the first quality. Their motto is "slow and sure," and as long as they stand by that they are safe. Not having the pleasure of witnessing their work, I cannot speak of the present, but judging from the past I have no hesitation in saying it is well and correctly done. Bro. ROLFE informs me that their records are well kept, and their finances are in good condition, that union and harmony prevail among their members.

GORHAM LODGE, No. 73, at Gorham. Of this Lodge I am a member, and endeavor to attend its meetings when possible for me to do so. This Lodge has done a large amount of work the past year, which has been well done, and of the best material; its records are well kept, and its finances in a good condition, they being well and securely invested. A general good feeling prevails among its members and peace along its borders.

WHITE MOUNTAIN LODGE, No. 86, Whitefield. I visited this Lodge, May 26; called a special communication for that purpose. It being a new Lodge I felt anxious to witness its work. I granted them a dispensation to confer the third degree upon Bro. LIBBY, who had taken the first and second degrees at regular meetings previously. I was very much pleased to find its members anxious to be sure they were right and then proceed; that is a good motto. Their work was very well and correctly done, records neatly and correctly kept, and their financial condition very good. The Lodge is a little in debt, it being chartered last year. They have a very convenient and secure hall, although not yet wholly furnished. They have an excellent set of jewels, books, &c., and bid fair to be one of the best Lodges in the State.

In conclusion, I will say, that I believe that never in this jurisdiction has Masonry been more prosperous than in the past year, and I am happy to say that, so far as I am aware, not only prosperity, but harmony and good feeling exist among the Lodges, and among the members of the several Lodges in this district.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

U. SHOREY, *D. D. G. M.*

GORHAM, May 31st, 1869.

The committee on credentials made a report embracing the foregoing list of Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, officers and representatives of subordinate Lodges, and visiting brethren in attendance, which report was accepted.

The Grand Lodge was then called off for refreshment until two o'clock in the afternoon.

A F T E R N O O N .

At two o'clock the Grand Lodge re-assembled and was called to labor. Present as in the morning.

The hour assigned for the election of Grand Officers having arrived, Bros. JOHN A. HARRIS and THOMAS E. HATCH were appointed a committee to collect, count, and declare the state of the votes, and the Grand Lodge proceeded to ballot for Grand Officers, when the following brethren were severally declared duly elected.

ALEXANDER M. WINN, Farmington, *M. W. Grand Master.*
 JOHN R. HOLBROOK, Portsmouth, *R. W. D. Grand Master.*
 N. W. CUMNER, Manchester, *R. W. Sen. Grand Warden.*
 WILLIAM BARRETT, Nashua, *R. W. Jun. Grand Warden.*
 JOHN KNOWLTON, Portsmouth, *R. W. Grand Treasurer.*
 HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, *R. W. Grand Secretary.*

W. B. REYNOLDS, formerly a member of Unity Lodge, No. 62, and expelled therefrom, presented his petition, and the petition of members of said Unity Lodge and other Lodges, praying the M. W. Grand Lodge to restore him to his former rights and privileges in Masonry, which petitions were referred to a select committee, consisting of Bros. HAZEN BEDEL, GEORGE MONTGOMERY and STEPHEN CHICK.

Petitions for new Lodges at North Conway and North Strafford were presented, which, with accompanying papers, were referred to the committee on Lodges.

The M. W. Grand Master announced the following appointments of Grand Officers :

District Deputy Grand Masters.

District No. 1, R. W. JOHN J. BELL, Exeter, over Lodges Nos. 1, 19, 47, 56, 59.
 " " 2, " " E. C. KINNEAR, Farmington, over Lodges Nos. 21, 29, 49, 65, 71, 75.
 " " 3, " " EDWARD PARKER, Nashua, over Lodges Nos. 39, 41, 44, 45, 61, 76, 85.
 " " 4, " " CHARLES H. BURNS, Wilton, over Lodges Nos. 7, 24, 26, 52, 67.
 " " 5, " " A. S. BALLANTYNE, Sanbornton, over Lodges Nos. 11, 31, 32, 38, 43, 60, 70, 72, 78, 79.
 " " 6, " " J. W. DEARBORN, Effingham, over Lodges Nos. 17, 57, 58, 62, 68, 74, 87.
 " " 7, " " ROYAL H. PORTER, Keene, over Lodges Nos. 12, 18, 30, 40, 42, 53, 77, 88.
 " " 8, " " ALBERT S. WAITE, Newport, over Lodges Nos. 6, 9, 14, 15, 22, 23, 50, 81.
 " " 9, " " HENRY L. GEORGE, Plymouth, over Lodges Nos. 16, 46, 68, 64, 66, 69.
 " " 10, " " HENRY O. KENT, Lancaster, over Lodges Nos. 8, 37, 73, 86.

Grand Lecturers.

District No. 1, R. W. OLIVER G. FERNALD, Portsmouth.
 " " 2, " " CHARLES A. TUFTS, Dover.
 " " 3, " " CHARLES M. ROBINSON, Nashua.
 " " 4, " " MORTIMER H. MORRISON, Peterboro'.
 " " 5, " " JOHN A. HARRIS, Concord.

District No. 6, R.: W.: HENRY R. PARKER, Wolfeborough.

“ “ 7, “ HENRY ABBOTT, Winchester.
 “ “ 8, “ LELAND J. GRAVES, Claremont.
 “ “ 9, “ HENRY W. SMITH, Littleton.
 “ “ 10, “ ALBERT BARKER, Colebrook.

Grand Chaplains.

R. W. and Rev. JAMES ADAMS, Candia.

“ “ “ THOMAS B. NEWBY, Conway.
 “ “ “ ORIN J. WAITE, Franklin.

Grand Deacons.

W.: EDWARD GUSTINE, Keene.

“ CLINTON W. STANLEY, Manchester.

Grand Stewards.

W.: DANIEL W. EDGERLY, Farmington.

“ DANIEL R. MARSHALL, Nashua.
 “ TOBIAS D. FOSS, Strafford.
 “ JACOB D. MARCH, Nashua.
 “ JOSEPH W. ROBINSON, Concord.
 “ CHARLES S. COBURN, Keene.

W.: A. H. BIXBY, Francestown, *Grand Marshal.*

“ LUTHER W. NICHOLS, Concord, *Grand Sword Bearer.*
 “ OLIVER A. WOODBURY, Nashua, *Grand Pursuivant.*
 “ GEORGE L. REED, Concord, *Grand Tyler.*

REPORT ON FINANCE.

The committee on finance to whom was referred the account of HORACE CHASE, Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, respectfully report, that they find upon examination, that the Grand

Secretary, has paid out for the year commencing June 16th, 1868, the sum of \$616.35, and that during the same period he has received the sum of \$544.00, leaving a balance due him of \$72.35.

We also recommend that the sum of \$150.00 be paid the Grand Secretary for his services in arranging and compiling the second volume of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, from 1842 to 1856.

The committee have examined the account of Bro. J. J. BELL, for services as chairman of committee on foreign correspondence, amounting to \$50.00, and recommend that the same be paid.

They have also examined the account of the R. W. Grand Treasurer, and find him charged as follows:

1868, June, balance of cash in his hands,	\$2,048 29
1869, June, to cash for \$1000.00 bond sold,	1,067 50
To cash for \$500.00 bond sold,	535 00
To cash received of Grand Sec'y,	822 50
	—————\$4,473 29

CR.

1868, By Paid C. F. LIVINGSTON,.....	\$300 00
" JOHN J. BELL,.....	50 00
" WM. BARRETT,.....	415 37
" C. F. LIVINGSTON,.....	250 00
" Grand Secretary CHASE,	100 00
" C. F. LIVINGSTON,.....	592 01
" Grand Secretary CHASE,	375 00
Dec. " BENT & BUSH,.....	647 40
1869, " Commission,	44 00
June, " GEO. L. REED,	15 00
" J. W. DEARBORN,.....	28 00
" M. L. AIKEN,	18 00
" GUILD & DELANO,.....	839 50
	—————\$3,674 28
	—————\$799 01

From which deduct the following bills which the committee recommend to be paid:

MORRILL & SILSBY,.....	\$14 55
JOHN J. BELL,.....	50 00
N. HUTCHINSON,	18 50
JOSEPH HARTFORD,.....	15 00
JOHN J. BELL,.....	5 00
C. W. STANLEY,.....	18 00
JESSENIAH KITTREDGE,.....	20 00
DANIEL R. MARSHALL,.....	3 00
IRA COLBY, Jr.....	14 20
A. M. WINN,	20 00
Balance due the Grand Sec'y,.....	72 35
C. F. LIVINGSTON,.....	377 25
Amount allowed Grand Secretary for compiling second volume proceed- ings Grand Lodge,.....	150 00
	<hr/> \$777 85

The amount of cash on hand, \$21 16

To which add one \$1000.00 5-20 bond with one year or more
interest balance in the hands of the Treasurer as above.

CHARLES G. PICKERING, *for the Committee on Finance.*

Which report was accepted and concurred in.

Called from labor to refreshment until seven o'clock
this evening.

E V E N I N G S E S S I O N .

At seven o'clock the Grand Lodge re-assembled and was
called to labor.

The special committee appointed on the petition of
Wm. B. REYNOLDS, made the following report, which was
accepted and concurred in.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Wm. B. REYNOLDS, to be restored to the rights and privileges of Masonry, from which he has been expelled by Unity Lodge, No. 62, report

that they have considered said petition and a recommendation accompanying the same, of the W. Master, Wardens and Secretary, and many members of said Lodge and other Master Masons, and are unanimous in recommending that the Grand Lodge restore said Wm. B. REYNOLDS to all the rights and privileges of Masonry that he enjoyed previous to his expulsion, and that he be notified of the same in due form.

Which is respectfully submitted,

HAZEN BEDELL,
GEORGE MONTGOMERY, }
STEPHEN CHICK, } Committee.

REPORT ON LODGE RETURNS.

The Committee on Returns of Lodges, having carefully examined the returns made to the Grand Secretary at this communication, submit the following as the result of their examination:

St. John's, No. 1, Benevolent, No. 7, Blazing Star, No. 11, Faithful, No. 12, King Solomon's, No. 14, Olive Branch, No. 16, Morning Star, No. 17, Charity, No. 18, Sullivan, No. 19, Humane, No. 21, Mount Moriah, No. 22, Cheshire, No. 23, Bethel, No. 24, Strafford, No. 29, St. Peter's, No. 31, Mount Lebanon, No. 32, Evening Star, No. 37, Rising Sun, No. 39, Philesian, No. 40, Lafayette, No. 41, Social Friends, No. 42, Aurora, No. 43, St. Mark's, No. 44, Pacific, No. 45, Grafton, No. 46, Rising Star, No. 47, Libanus, No. 49, Social, No. 50, Clinton, No. 52, Columbian, No. 53, St. Andrews, No. 56, Charter Oak, No. 58, Star in the East, No. 59, Meridian, No. 60, Washington, No. 61, Kane, No. 64, Burns, No. 66, Souhegan, No. 67, Mount Prospect, No. 69, Eureka, No. 70, Fraternal, No. 71, Horace Chase, No. 72, Gorham, No. 73, Ossipee Valley, No. 74, Winnipissiogee, No. 75, Rockingham, No. 76, Golden Rule, No. 77, Doric, No. 78, Union, No. 79, Monadnock, No. 80, Kearsarge, No. 81, Corinthian, No. 82, Chocorua, No. 83, Gideon, No. 84, Spicket, No. 85, White Mountain, No. 86, Lodge of the Temple, U. D., all correct. Franklin, No. 6, not footed correctly; North Star, No. 8, no return; Hiram, No. 9, fees to Grand Lodge omitted, mem-

bers not alphabetically arranged; Mount Cube, No. 10, names of members not returned; Mount Vernon, No. 15, number of members not returned; Altemont, No. 26, officers names included with members; St. Paul, No. 30, no return; Harmony, No. 38, number of members wrong; Carroll, No. 57, no return; Unity, No. 62, no return; Moosehillock, No. 63, no return; Granite, No. 65, dues not footed; Red Mountain, No. 68, number of members wrong, time of communication not given.

All which is respectfully submitted,

C. K. DRAKE,
NOAH TEBBETTS, }
HENRY M. DAVIS, } Committee.

Which report was accepted.

On motion of M. W. ISRAEL HUNT, *Voted*, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to collect the dues of delinquent Lodges, and also to give to the Lodges which have made incorrect returns the opportunity to correct them.

The committee on foreign correspondence offered their report, and on motion of Bro. WM. BARRETT, it was voted that the reading of the report be dispensed with, and that it be published with the printed proceedings.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. JOHN J. BELL, ALBERT R. HATCH and CHARLES H. BURNS, committee on foreign correspondence.

The special committee, appointed at the last annual communication, on the petition of P. C. CAMBRIDGE, asked for further time to make report, which was granted, and his petition continued by vote of the Grand Lodge.

REPORT ON DOINGS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire:

Your committee to whom was referred the doings of Grand Officers have attended to the duties assigned them, and report that they have received and examined the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters for all the districts.

In all except number five, those officers appear to have attended to their duties faithfully, and to have made particular exertion to visit all the respective jurisdictions, and to scrutinize particularly the condition and transactions of each.

The District Deputy Grand Master in district number five, reports that by reason of sickness and unavoidable absence from the State, he has been prevented from a more particular discharge of his duties, but the general condition of the several Lodges in his jurisdiction is commendable.

From these reports the several Lodges appear to be approaching more nearly to a uniformity in work than ever before. In a few localities there has been an unwarrantable deviation from the standard work; the cause does not appear.

Financially, the Lodges seem to be in a more prosperous condition than in previous years, and in some instances there is quite a large amount of funds carefully invested.

In several cases new halls have been erected and beautifully furnished, which your committee deem very commendable whenever the condition of the Lodge is such as to warrant it.

Generally, a spirit of harmony prevails, promising the highest degree of prosperity within this jurisdiction, but we are sorry to report that, in a few Lodges, a spirit of discord has been fomented wholly unworthy of men, and more particularly of brother Masons. Such conduct brings reproach and dishonor upon our institution, and we hope it may never again intrude itself within the order.

We commend the manner in which the several District Deputy Grand Masters have attended to their duty, particularly in those instances where a detailed statement of the financial condition of Lodges in their districts have been made, and attention has been given to the manner and amount of work done.

The eloquent and appropriate address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master deserves especial commendation, as setting forth in plain and expressive style the condition of such matters as has been his official duty to consider.

THOMAS E. HATCH,
JOSEPH W. FELLOWS,
JOHN M. SHIRLEY, } Committee.

REPORT ON LODGES.

The committee to whom have been referred the several matters relating to Lodges, submit the following as their report:

They recommend that a charter be granted for a new Lodge at North Conway, lately working under a dispensation, to be called Mount Washington Lodge, and numbered 87, and that the same be assigned to District No. 6.

In the matter of the petition of JOHN C. BICKFORD and twenty-seven others, praying for permission to remove Ossipee Valley Lodge, No. 74, from Centre Ossipee to West Ossipee, the parties having complied in all respects with the requirements of the Grand Constitution, and it appearing for the benefit of the Lodge to make the change, the committee recommend that the Lodge have leave to make the desired removal.

The committee recommend that the petition of CHARLES P. SHOFF and nineteen others, asking for a new Lodge at North Strafford, be dismissed, they not deeming it expedient to grant a charter.

They recommend that the by-laws which have been submitted to them be referred to the several District Deputy Grand Masters.

The committee have fully heard the parties in the matter of the petition of A. S. CARPENTER and others, asking for a charter for a new Lodge at Keene, lately working under dispensation, and although they find some informality in the proceedings, the committee are of the opinion that it will be for the best interest of the order to establish a new Lodge at that place.

They therefore recommend that a charter be granted for a new

Lodge at said Keene, to be called "The Lodge of the Temple," to be numbered 88, and assigned to District No. 7.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES H. BURNS,
JOHN A. HARRIS,
WM. B. LANE, } Committee.

On motion, said report was accepted and the recommendations of the committee for granting a charter for a new Lodge at North Conway, for the removal of Ossipee Valley Lodge, from Centre Ossipee to West Ossipee, and for dismissing the petition for a new Lodge at North Strafford, were concurred in.

Brother THOS. E. HATCH moved that that part of the report recommending the formation of a new Lodge at Keene be concurred in, and a charter for the same issue accordingly, which motion, after a long and animated discussion in favor and against, was put and decided in the affirmative.

Bro. WM. BARRETT, offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the custodian of the Grand Lodge library be instructed to complete files of proceedings of sister Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, so far as practicable, and cause the same to be bound, and that he be further instructed to procure suitable book-cases for the same; and that the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to draw his order on the Grand Treasurer for a sum sufficient to pay the expense, when the bill shall be approved by the custodian, Bro. JOHN A. HARRIS.

On motion, *Resolved*, that the dispensations of those Lodges whose charters are granted at this session, be

extended until charters are furnished and the Lodges duly constituted.

The Grand Lodge was then closed until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11TH, 1869.

At nine o'clock in the morning the M. W. Grand Master opened the Grand Lodge in due form.

The R. W. Grand Secretary gave the following notices : of the expulsion of JOHN F. MORSE, by Grafton Lodge, No. 46, January 2d, 1868 ; of the expulsion of A. TYLER PALMER, by Charity Lodge, No. 23, R. I., June 25th, 1868 ; of the expulsion of NATHAN J. CRANDALL, by Warwick Lodge, —, September 7th, 1868 ; of the suspension of LOCKHART DAVENPORT, by Golden Rule Lodge, No. 77, October 29th, 1868 ; of an amendment of the by-laws of Cheshire Lodge, No. 23, changing the time of stated communication.

Bro. N. W. CUMNER offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a page in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge be inscribed to the memory of our deceased Bro. W. ASAHEL ADAMS BALCH, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to forward a copy of the same to the widow of the deceased.

On motion of Grand Secretary,

Voted, That all the Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge for the past year be presented with a copy of the second volume of reprinted proceedings.

The revised Grand Constitution, presented at the last annual communication, the consideration of which was

postponed to the second day of this communication, at ten o'clock A. M., and the day and hour having arrived, was taken up, read article by article and section by section, debated, amended and adopted. [See Appendix.]

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor until two o'clock in the afternoon.

AFTERNOON.

The Grand Lodge re-assembled at two o'clock P. M., and was called from refreshment to labor.

Bro. WILLIAM BARRETT, offered the following resolutions which were read and adopted :

Resolved, That Bro. JOHN J. BELL be directed to procure the printing of one thousand (1000) copies of the new Grand Constitution, as soon as may be, after this session of the Grand Lodge, and to forward the same to the Grand Secretary, who shall immediately send four (4) copies to each Lodge, and one copy to each officer of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That Bro. BELL be authorized and directed to prepare such forms as may be necessary under the new Grand Constitution, and cause the same to be printed and bound with the constitution.

Bro. HORACE CHASE proposed in writing to amend the Grand Constitution of this Grand Lodge by striking out section 117., article XIV., which reads as follows :

“There shall be but one ballot for all the degrees. If objections are made to a candidate after initiation, charges shall be filed and a trial had, as provided in article XVII.”; and inserting the following instead thereof;

“No candidate for the honors of Masonry shall be ini-

tiated or advanced to any higher degree, but upon a clear and unanimous ballot upon each degree."

Which proposed amendment was ordered to be filed with the Grand Secretary, and lay over for consideration till the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. HAZEN BEDELL offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That all candidates for the honors of Masonry, whose applications shall have been received and filed prior to the adoption of the revised Grand Constitution, if admitted, shall receive the degrees for the fees required under the old constitution.

On motion of Bro. JOHN J. BELL,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be instructed to effect an insurance on the jewels and clothing of the Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bro. BARRETT offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That R. W. Bro. HORACE CHASE be presented with twenty copies of the second volume of the reprinted proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

There being no further business before the Grand Lodge, it was closed by the M. W. Grand Master in ample form, with prayer by R. W. and Rev. THOMAS B. NEWBY, Grand Chaplain.

A true record. Attest:



Grand Secretary.

Address of Grand Master :

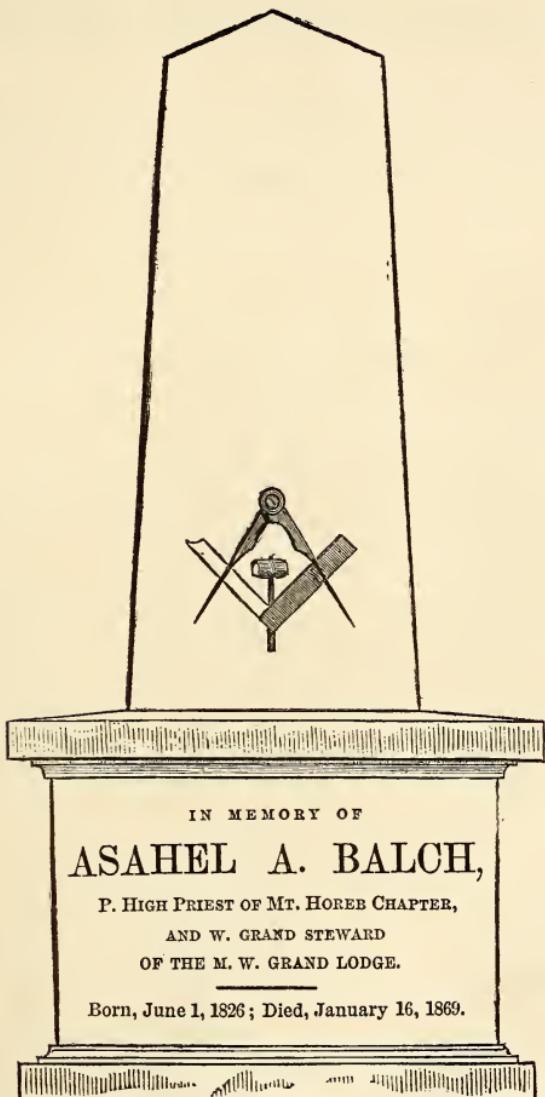
ALEXANDER M. WINN, M. D.

Manchester, N. H.

Address of Grand Secretary :

HON. HORACE CHASE,

Hopkinton, N. H.



LIST OF PAST GRAND OFFICERS,

WHO, BY THE CONSTITUTION, ARE MEMBERS OF AND ENTITLED TO A VOTE IN
THE GRAND LODGE, AS CORRECTED JUNE, A. L. 5869.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.

NAME.	LODGE.	LOCATION.
ISRAEL HUNT,	Rising Sun, No. 39,	Nashua.
JOHN CHRISTIE,	St. Andrew's, No. 56,	Portsmouth.
HORACE CHASE,	Aurora, No. 43,	Henniker.
DANIEL BALCH,	Lafayette, No. 41,	Manchester.
ICHABOD G. JORDAN,	Libanus, No. 49,	Somersworth.
ALFRED GREELEY,	Rising Sun, No. 39,	Nashua.
GEORGE H. HUBBARD,	St. Peter's, No. 31,	Bradford.
CHARLES H. BELL,	Star in the East, No. 59,	Exeter.
JONA. EVERETT SARGENT,	Moosehillock, No. 63,	Wentworth.
JOHN H. ROWELL,	Meridian, No. 60,	Franklin.

PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

JACOB C. HANSON,	Libanus, No. 49,	Somersworth.
RICHARD N. ROSS,	Strafford, No. 29,	Dover.
JOHN S. KIDDER,	Washington, No. 61,	Manchester.

PAST GRAND WARDENS.

JOHN H. WHITE,	Strafford, No. 29,	Dover.
JOSHUA EDWARDS,	Libanus, No. 49,	Somersworth.
JOHN KNOWLTON,	St. John's, No. 1,	Portsmouth.
JOSIAH MORSE,	Aurora, No. 43,	Henniker.
CHRISTOPHER WHITNEY,	Bethel, No. 24,	New Ipswich.
GEORGE W. BALLOCH,	Libanus, No. 49,	Somersworth.
JOHN B. FISH,	Lafayette, No. 41,	Manchester.

PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

THOMAS CLAPMAN,	St. John's, No. 1,	Portsmouth.
CHARLES LANE,	Mt. Lebanon, No. 32,	Gilford.
ELIJAH BINGHAM,	St. Paul's, No. 30,	Alstead.
FRANCIS RUSSELL,	Mt. Lebanon, No. 32,	Gilford.
DAVID MURRAY,	Rising Star, No. 47,	Newmarket.
TITUS V. WADSWORTH,	Meridian, No. 60,	Franklin.
ELIPHALET LYMAN,	North Star, No. 8;	Lancaster.
JOHN M. HUNT,	Rising Sun, No. 39,	Nashua.
HARRISON G. HARRIS,	St. Peter's, No. 31,	Bradford.
WILLIAM P. RIDDLE,	Lafayette, No. 41,	Manchester.
JOHN BENNETT,	St. John's, No. 1,	Portsmouth.
JACOB O. SMITH,	Rising Sun, No. 39,	Nashua.
WILLIAM D. MCPHERSON,	Lafayette, No. 41,	Manchester.
THEODORE T. ABBOT,	Lafayette, No. 41,	Manchester.
JONAS PARKER,	Mount Vernon, No. 15,	Newport.
JOSIAH G. HADLEY,	St. John's, No. 1,	Portsmouth.
SILAS DINSMORE,	Harmony, No. 38,	Hillsborough.
ROBERT DUNLAP,	Lafayette, No. 41,	Manchester.
JOHN J. PRENTISS,	Hiram, No. 9,	Claremont.
JOSIAH B. EDGERLY,	Humane, No. 21,	Rochester.
ALBERT R. HATCH,	St. John's, No. 1,	Portsmouth.
HOSEA FESSENDEN,	Blazing Star, No. 11,	Concord.
SAMUEL DUNSTER,	Strafford, No. 29,	Dover.
JOHN F. DUNCKLEE,	Lafayette, No. 41,	Manchester.
IRA RUST,	St. Paul's, No. 30,	Alstead.
CYRUS K. DRAKE,	Charter Oak, No. 58,	Effingham.
ABEL HUTCHINS,	Blazing Star, No. 11,	Concord.
LEWIS WOODMAN,	Hiram, No. 9,	Claremont.
EDWARD H. ROLLINS,	Blazing Star, No. 11,	Concord.
EDWARD W. HARRINGTON,	Washington, No. 61,	Manchester.
JAMES H. EDGERLY,	Humane, No. 21,	Rochester.
JARED I. WILLIAMS,	North Star, No. 8,	Lancaster.
THOMAS SNOW,	Libanus, No. 49,	Somersworth.
SAMUEL M. WILCOX,	Star in the East, No. 59,	Exeter.
ELISHA E. DODGE,	Granite, No. 65,	Rollinsford.
PHILIP H. PADDLEFORD,	Burns, No. 66,	Littleton.
ISAAC H. MARSHALL,	Rising Sun, No. 39,	Nashua.
CHARLES G. CONNER,	Star in the East, No. 59,	Exeter.
WILLIAM W. BAILEY,	Rising Sun, No. 39,	Nashua.
BARRETT RIPLEY,	Social Friends, No. 42,	Keene.
THOMAS SPURLIN,	Strafford, No. 29,	Dover.

JOHN WILDER,	Altemont, No. 66,	Peterborough.
C. C. FELLOWS,	Red Mountain, No. 68,	Sandwich.
EZRA C. KNIGHT,	Kane, No. 64,	Lisbon.
URBAN SHOREY,	Gorham, No. 73,	Gorham.
WILLIAM P. WALKER,	St. Andrews, No. 56,	Portsmouth.
RUFUS L. BARTLETT,	Lafayette, No. 41,	Manchester.
W. B. CLEMENT,	Meridian, No. 60,	Franklin.
EDWARD GUSTINE,	Social Friends, No. 42,	Keene.
JOHN YOUNG, Jr.,	Mount Vernon, No. 15,	Newport.
HENRY O. KENT,	North Star, No. 8,	Lancaster.
JOHN DAME,	St. John's, No. 1,	Portsmouth.
FRANKLIN McDUFFEE,	Humane, No. 21,	Rochester.
EZRA HUNTINGTON,	Lafayette, No. 41,	Manchester.
CHARLES H. BURNS,	Clinton, No. 52,	Wilton.
ELI DODGE,	St. Peter's, No. 31,	Bradford.
JOHN BLACKMER,	Red Mountain, No. 68,	Sandwich.
DON H. WOODWARD,	Social Friends, No. 42,	Keene.
A. M. GOVE,	Franklin, No. 6,	Lebanon.
THOMAS J. SMITH,	Moosehillock, No. 63,	Wentworth.
HAZEN BEDELL,	Evening Star, No. 37,	Colebrook.
JEREMIAH D. PARKER,	Star in the East, No. 59,	Exeter.
JOSEPH HARTFORD,	Strafford, No. 29,	Dover.
CLINTON W. STANLEY,	Washington, No. 61,	Manchester.
NATHAN HUTCHINSON,	Benevolent, No. 7,	Milford.
JESSENIAH KITTREDGE,	Columbian, No. 53,	Walpole.
IRA COBLEY, Jr.,	Hiram, No. 9,	Claremont.
MARK S. AIKEN,	Moosehillock, No. 63,	Wentworth.

NOTE.—All Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Wardens, and Past District Deputy Grand Masters, are members of this Grand Lodge while they remain members of some subordinate Lodge under its jurisdiction.

N. B.—The Secretaries of subordinate Lodges are respectfully requested to give information of any errors they may find in the foregoing list of Past Grand Officers, or any changes that may occur, that they may be noted and hereafter corrected.

LIST OF SUBORDINATE LODGES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

WITH AN ABSTRACT OF RETURNS MADE TO THE GRAND LODGE, JUNE, A. L. 5869.

Name of Lodge.	No.	Location.	Memb's.	Init'd.	Due.	W. Master.	Secretary.	Time of Stated Meeting.
St. John's.....	1	Portsmouth.....	291	19	\$28 50	Samuel S. Fletcher.....	Geo. P. Edhy.....	First Wednesday of each month.
Franklin.....	6	Lebanon.....	168	7	10 50	Wm. N. Baker.....	Adoniram Smalley.....	Monday of week of F. M.
Benefvolent.....	7	Milford.....	69	4	6 00	W. H. W. Hinds.....	Wm. P. Parmelee.....	Tuesday on or before F. M.
North Star§.....	8	Lancaster.....	125	11	16 50	Edward Savage.....	Geo. H. Emerson.....	Tuesday of week of F. M.
Hiram.....	9	Clarendon.....	157	9	13 50	B. F. Whitcomb.....	Albert Hawkes.....	First Wednesday of each month.
Mount Cube.....	10	Orford	44	10	15 00	S. C. Dimick.....	J. K. Carr.....	Not stated in return.
Blazing Star.....	11	Concord	209	6	9 00	John A. Harris.....	Wm. A. Clough.....	Wednesday before F. M.
Faithful.....	12	Charlestown	43	4	6 00	George S. Bond.....	George Olcott.....	Monday on or before F. M.
King Solomons.....	14	Wilmot.....	48	5	7 50	Edwin A. Jones.....	E. L. Wheeler.....	Wednesday before F. M.
Mount Vernon.....	15	Newport	66	6	9 00	David McLaughlin.....	Dan'l P. Quimby.....	Not stated in return.
Olive Branch.....	16	Plymouth.....	74	5	7 50	Hiram Clark.....	Frank C. Green.....	Tuesday on or before F. M.
Morning Star.....	17	Wolfeborough.....	98	10	15 00	Levi T. Haley.....	Thomas Rust.....	Wednesday on or before F. M.
Charity.....	18	Jaffrey	61	4	6 00	Orin D. Prescott.....	Lewis S. Jaqueth.....	Wednesday on or before F. M.
Sullivan*.....	19	Epping	38	28	42 00	H. F. Hopkins.....	Wm. L. Plumer.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
Humane§.....	21	Rochester.....	135	18	27 00	John S. Parsons.....	Charles W. Bickford.....	Tuesday on or before F. M.
Mount Moriah.....	22	Grafton	30	5	7 50	Stephen Fellows.....	James W. Kilton.....	Tuesday on or before F. M.
Cheshire.....	23	Cornish	103	5	7 50	Alban P. Wood.....	Wm. C. True	Saturday on or before F. M.
Bethel.....	24	New Ipswich	20	1	1 50	Nath'l Y. Oliver.....	Dan'l G. Murphy.....	Tuesday on or before F. M.
Altemont.....	26	Peterborough	98	7	10 50	I. F. Preston.....	J. H. Steele.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
Strafford.....	29	Dover	166	10	15 00	George W. Tash.....	Amasa Roberts.....	Wednesday on or before F. M.
St. Paul's§.....	30	Alstead.....	90	1	1 50	John S. Dickey.....	James A. Dickey.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
St. Peter's§.....	31	Bradford	82	5	7 50	Cyrus M. Fisk.....	Dan'l M. Perkins.....	Thursday on or before F. M.

Mount Lebanon..	32	Laconia	13	19 50	Alpheus Dolloff.....	George B. Lane
Evening Star.....	37	Colebrook	46	8	12 00	Hazen Bedell.....
Harmony.....	38	Hillsborough ..	126	6	9 00	John Goodale.....
Rising Sun.....	39	Nashua.....	211	12	18 00	Henry M. Davis.....
Philesian.....	40	Winchester	86	4	6 00	James T. Burnap.....
Lafayette.....	41	Manchester	265	18	27 00	William B. Lane
Social Friends	42	Keene	169	13	19 50	Charles S. Coburn.....
Aurora.....	43	Henniker	62	5	7 50	George L. Kimball
St. Mark's.....	44	Derry	55	14	21 00	Lewis S. Morris
Pacific.....	45	Francesstown	26	8	12 00	A. H. Bixby
Grafton	46	Haverhill	94	7	10 50	Charles G. Smith
Rising Star.....	47	Newmarket	110	14	21 00	Orin Murray
Libanus	49	Somersworth	182	10	15 00	Thomas Snow
Social	50	Enfield	89	6	9 00	L. J. Currier
Clinton.....	52	Wilton	63	8	12 00	George S. Neville
Columbian	53	Walpole	46	6	9 00	Joshua B. Clark
St. Andrews	56	Portsmouth	231	14	21 00	James W. Lord
Carroll	57	Freedom	98	6	9 00	James Milliken
Charter Oak	58	Effingham	88	4	6 00	Alvah Doe
Star in the East	59	Exeter	104	8	12 00	Charles G. Conner
Meridian.....	60	Franklin	112	3	4 50	Edwin C. Stone
Washington	61	Manchester	180	25	37 50	Joseph Kidder
Unity\$.....	62	Wakefield	63	7	10 50	A. M. Brackett
Moosehillock	63	Wentworth	55	2	3 00	Lorenzo W. Currier
Kane	64	Lisbon	159	4	6 00	Horace B. Savage
Granite	65	Rollinsford	77	2	3 00	William Webster
Burns.....	66	Littleton	109	10	15 00	U. H. Greene
Souhegan	67	Mason	36	1	1 50	George M. Farrar
Red Mountain.....	68	Sandwich	54	8	12 00	John Blackmer
Mount Prospectt	69	Ashland.....	56	6	9 00	J. S. Morrison

LIST OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.—CONCLUDED.

Name of Lodge.	No.	Location.	Memb's.	Init'd.	Dues.	W. Master.	Secretary.	Time of stated meeting.
Eureka.....	70	Concord...	79	16	\$24 00	Frank D. Woodbury.....	William Vogler.....	First Thursday of each month.
Fraternal.....	71	Farmington.....	142	14	21 00	John F. Cloutman.....	Josiah B. Edgerly.....	Monday on or before F. M.
Horace Chase.....	72	Fisherville.....	77	9	13 50	George N. Herbert.....	Lorenzo H. Currier.....	Friday on or before F. M.
Gorham.....	73	Gorham	84	14	21 00	George W. Waterhouse.....	John E. Willis.....	Friday on or before F. M.
Ossipee Valley.....	74	Ossipee	44	6	9 00	John C. Bickford.....	Frank H. Lord.....	Tuesday after F. M.
Winnipissiogee.....	75	Alton	76	13	19 50	John C. Thurston.....	Charles Hayes.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
Rockingham.....	76	Candia	73	24	36 00	Rufus E. Patien.....	Silas Greene.....	Tuesday on or before F. M.
Golden Rule.....	77	Hinsdale.....	55	5	7 50	Edward Bishop.....	H. W. Thayer.....	Tuesday on or before F. M.
Doric	78	Sanbornton	55	12	18 00	John Fletcher.....	Joseph Hill.....	Monday on or before F. M.
Union.....	79	Bristol	63	10	15 00	Marshall W. White.....	Charles B. Dow.....	Friday on or before F. M.
Monadnock.....	80	Troy	51	5	7 50	John Clement.....	Albert G. Hurlbutt.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
Kearnsarge.....	81	Andover.....	48	3	4 50	Charlton W. Woodbury.....	Nathan Woodbury, Jr.....	Saturday before F. M.
Corinthian.....	82	Pittsfield	37	7	10 50	J. P. Roby.....	S. J. Winslow.....	Tuesday on or before F. M.
Chocorua.....	83	Meredith	31	6	9 00	Charles W. Neal.....	Josiah H. Prescott.....	Wednesday on or before F. M.
Gideon.....	84	Kingston	57	6	9 00	Andrew J. Ciley.....	Sam'l E. Woodman.....	Monday of week of F. M.
Spickett.....	85	Salem.....	31	2	3 00	George K. Whitney.....	James Ayer.....	Thursday on or before F. M.
White Mountain.....	86	Whitefield	33	9	13 50	Ira S. M. Gove.....	Joel M. Sartwell.....	Tuesday of week of F. M.
Mount Washington†	87	North Conway						
The Lodge of the Temple,‡	88	Keene.....		4	6 00	A. Sydney Carpenter.....	Henry C. Keyes.....	First Tuesday of each month.
No. of Lodges,	71							
						6,431 597	\$895 50	

* Charter revived by Grand Master, July 1868. Lodge removed from Lee to Epping by Grand Lodge, Dec., 1868.

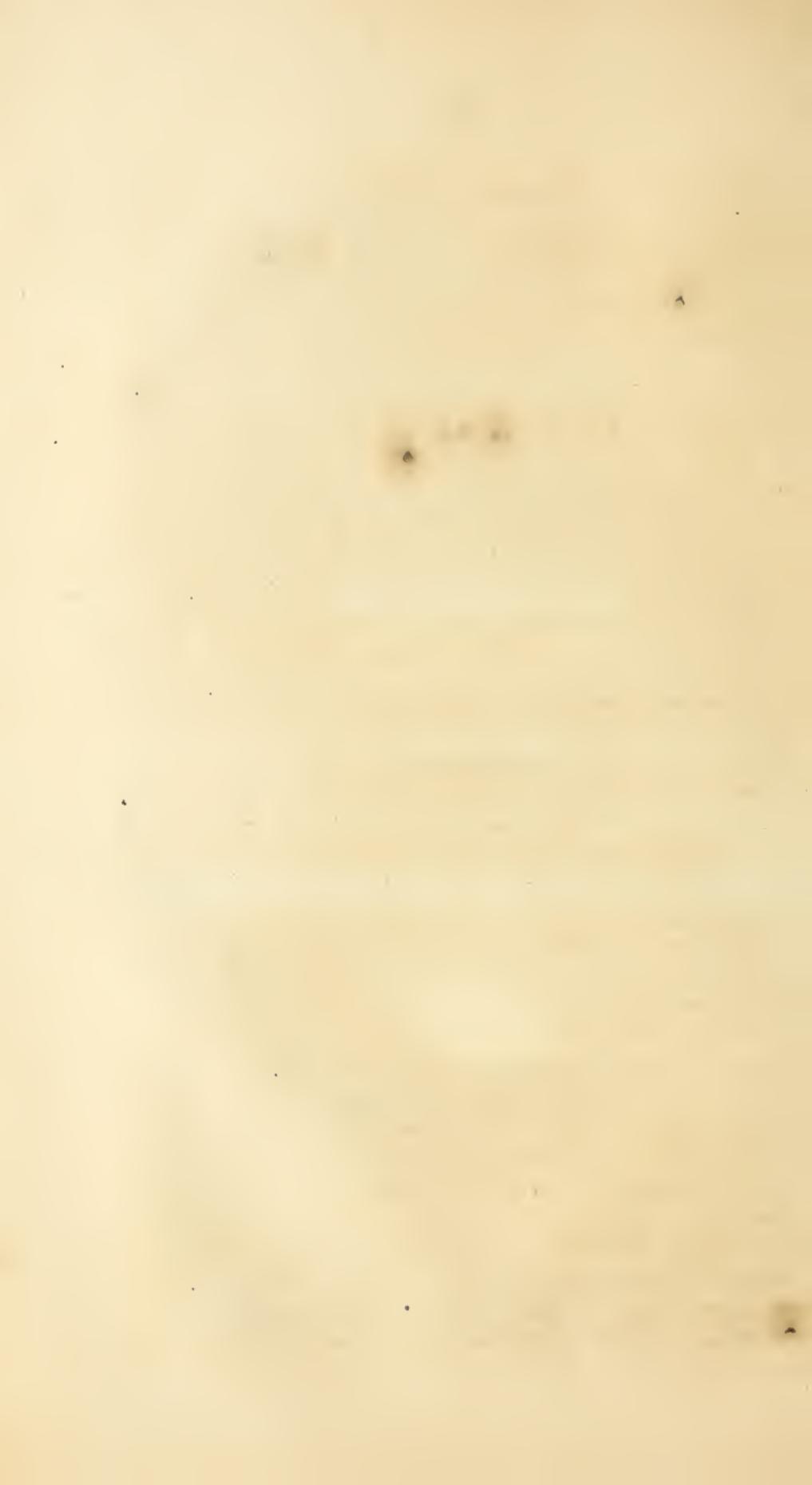
† Location changed by change of name of town.

‡ Chartered, June, 1869.

§ Dues paid after annual communication, 1869.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.



R E P O R T.

IN GRAND LODGE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, }
Concord, June 10, A. L. 5869. }

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submit the following report:

We have examined the proceedings of thirty-nine domestic, and four foreign Grand Bodies, which have been submitted to us, viz:

Alabama, Dec. 7, 5868; Arkansas, Nov. 16, 5868; California, Oct. 13, 5868; Canada, July 8, 5868; District of Columbia for 5868; Connecticut, May 13, 5868; Delaware, June 27, 5868; Florida, January 13, 5868; Georgia, Oct. 27, 5868; Idaho, Dec. 16, 5867, June 22, 5868; Illinois, Oct. 6, 5868; Indiana, May 26, 5868; Iowa, June 2, 5868; Kansas, Oct. 20, 5868; Kentucky, Oct. 19, 5868; Louisiana, Feb. 16, 5868; Maine, May, 5868; Maryland, Nov. 16, 5868; Massachusetts for 5868; Michigan, Jan. 13, 5868; Mississippi, Jan. 20, 5868; Missouri, Oct. 12, 5868; Nebraska, June 24, 5868; Nevada, Sept. 17, 5868; New Brunswick, Sept. 23, 5868; New Jersey, Jan. 22, 5868; New York, June 2, 5868; North Carolina, Dec. 7, 5868; Nova Scotia, June 24, 5868; Ohio, Oct. 20, 5868; Oregon, June 22, 5868; Pennsylvania for 5868; Rhode Island, May 18, 5868; South Carolina, Nov, 17, 5868; Tennessee, Oct. 5, 5868; Texas, June 8, 5868; Vermont, June 10, 5868; Virginia, Dec. 14, 5868; Washington, Sept. 17, 5868; West Virginia, Nov. 10, 5868; Wisconsin, June 9, 5868; Bulletin du Grand Orient de France for 5868.

A L A B A M A .

This Grand Lodge commenced its forty-eighth annual communication at Montgomery, December 7th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and ninety-nine Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master, M. W. GEORGE D. NORRIS, presented an eloquent address. Of our order he says:

“ Loaded with the charms of antiquity, interesting by a thousand associations of history, heroism, and romance, the order yet possesses all the health and life of novelty, all the liberality and benevolence of reform. It exists in the body and bosom of the people ; it catches their sentiments, is modified by their thoughts, and changes with their manners. It partakes of their improvement, and adapts itself to all the various changes of man. Within its shadow the rich and the poor meet on terms of equality ; the one forgets his wealth and his pride, and the other forgets his poverty and his sorrow. Their sympathies, ever otherwise asunder, are here mingled together, and they go forth into the world again, conscious that opposition in rank cannot with them create hostility of feeling. They lose the artificial distinctions of society, and assume the pure, original and kindly intercourse of fellow-men. The great man finds familiar friendship in walks of society where his name would otherwise never have been uttered, but with awe ; and the obscure poor man finds himself exciting interest and acquiring importance among those whose looks hitherto have been bent upon him with coldness and condescension.”

He thus disposes of that fruitful source of discussion, uniformity of work :

“ The ritual is useful and necessary, but much cumbered with many words ; but it is by no means Masonry ; the elucidation of our symbols in the search of Truth, and the practice of its deductions thereby learned, I consider to be in deed and in truth, Masonry in its highest sense. As to uniformity, except in the essentials, viz. : the G. W. and S., together with the traditions — it is a myth, and can never be accomplished.”

He had decided among other things, that any member may veto the advancement of the candidate before the O. B., and that he need not give his reasons ; that a member who cannot be present, may make his objection to the affiliation of a brother known to the Master, who should withhold the ballot ; that a Mason may take the benefit of the bankrupt act ; that the minutes must always be read before closing, for correction and approval, and read at the next stated communication for reference only ; that maims cannot be initiated or advanced ; to all which we say, amen. But he also decided that a Past Master who has never received the P. M. degree may install, which, with our understanding that that degree is an essential part of the ceremony of installation, seems erroneous.

He reported having granted nine dispensations for new Lodges. This Grand Lodge has a historian, Bro. SAMUEL H. DIXON, who thus states what he hopes to accomplish :

"When I entered upon my duties as Historian of Masonry in Alabama, I determined to compile a full and complete history of every Lodge in the State (defunct or living), and the history of the Grand Lodge, with an abstract of its most important proceedings. This I find to be a Herculean task; but by diligence and perseverance I hope to accomplish the desired object."

Would it not be well for our Grand Lodge to attempt something of the sort.

Eight charters were granted for new Lodges, and two were continued under dispensation. The committee on jurisprudence reported, that the right of objecting to the admission of a visitor is in the Lodge, and not in any individual brother, and should not be exercised but for good reasons. The first part of this decision may be doubted. They also decided that the Senior Warden succeeds to the Master, the Junior Warden succeeds in the absence of both his superiors; therefore, a vacancy in the office of Master cannot be filled if there be a Warden, but that the Junior Warden does not succeed the Senior, either temporarily or permanently, and therefore a dispensation may be granted to elect a Senior Warden when the office is vacant; they also decided that a Mason cannot renounce Masonry; he may dimitt, he may refuse to participate in the active work of the craft, or to fulfill his obligations, but he remains a Mason, unless for some Masonic crime he be expelled; they also say a dimitt should be refused where the object is to renounce Masonry. We rather prefer to regard his membership as voluntary; if he desires a dimitt, and is clear of all charges, we would not hold him to unwilling membership. A Mason he is and must remain, but Lodge membership is another thing. A special committee reported against the Grand Lodge committing itself to Masonic Coöperative Life Insurance Companies,—whatever these last be,—with which the Grand Lodge wisely concurred.

The report on foreign correspondence, from the pen of M. W. C. PENICK, reviews the proceedings of forty-two Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. He quotes from the Arkansas report the position that negro equality in Masonry would make the institution impracticable, if not contemptible, and says :

"And what is this all for? To extend the institution to a class of profanes, of whom, to say the least of it, it is but an experiment upon a servile race, not free born in the sense of Masonry? And it is a question to-day, whether he is not a worse slave than before. Now, if the opinion of Brother PECK, that the negro is capable of the highest order of intellectual and social improvement, is right, time will prove it; but if on the contrary, he is mistaken, woe to Masonry. Now, why not wait until a generation of free-born negroes, with culture and education, can perhaps be safely trusted, and when prejudices and doubts will have passed away or have become solved in the clear light of experience."

The experiment suggested has been tried already, under perhaps not the most favorable circumstances, and though as a race, they are still far from highly advanced standing, individuals can be found, who by their talents and their virtues, seem to render the opinion of G.: M.: PECK, to say the least of it, probable. He approves the view, now becoming general, that fees upon affiliation should be abolished. Of the Mormon question, our brother thus delivers himself:

"Well, we fear that the Grand Master of Colorado may lend himself to the Mormon interest and be instrumental in permitting the Mormons—those adulterous bigamites, to get into and finally possession of the Lodge at Salt Lake City. We unhesitatingly sustain the action taken by the Grand Master of Nevada on the Mormon question—not because of their religion, but because of their adulterous proclivities and practices."

Our brother is a good deal troubled about the "everlasting nigger," which, if his view of such of them as he sees is correct, is not to be wondered at. He says of them:

"We have lately turned loose on us a race of men naturally indolent, lazy, and depraved in morals, who will not work and must eat, who lie up and sleep by day to prowl about and steal by night. And it requires as much time, trouble and expense to guard and save what we make from them, as it does to make it. Many of our members and best citizens have left and are leaving the country, and thousands more would, if they could raise enough of means to go with."

If he could only see that the question of the negro in Masonry is just now merely speculative, and will remain so, if intemperate brothers do not get themselves warm about it; that there is no likelihood that negroes will be made Masons, unless he and such as he stir up the fanatics he so much dreads,—it would be much better for the craft. He hauls us over the coals for our lenient treatment of certain brothers at Great Falls, but as he is not alone in this, we prefer to answer all at once, which we shall do farther on. We had marked other passages for quotation, but want of space forbids.

ARKANSAS.

The thirtieth annual communication of this Grand Lodge commenced at Little Rock, November 16th, A. L. 5868, A. D., 1868. Ninety-eight Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master, M.: W.: E. .H ENGLISH reports having granted seventeen dispensations for new Lodges. He thus reports the action of one of the particular Lodges :

" The Worshipful Master of Shady Grove Lodge, No. 108, writes: ' At the last session of the Grand Lodge there was an edict passed, compelling all Lodges to provide themselves with a Lodge seal—their returns to be made out under seal of the Lodge ; all failing to do so not to be received (p. 37-8). We fully acknowledge the right of the Grand Lodge to do this, but believe it to be an abuse of power to inflict burthens that would be grievous to bear. We, therefore, as per resolution, unanimously surrender up our charter,' etc.

" Seals are of great antiquity ; they are perhaps older than the art of writing, and certainly preceded, for many ages, the invention of printing. Tubal-Cain, the son of Zillah, and, in his line, the eighth man from Adam, was the first artificer in brass and iron, and doubtless fashioned seals for the ante-deluvian patriarchs. Solomon had a seal of mystic form and devices, and the Arabians, to this day, attribute a talismanic influence to the seal of our ancient Grand Master. The seal has been used in all ages as a symbol of nationality and sovereignty, and is the most solemn evidence of the authenticity of legal, as well as Masonic transactions. No Lodge or intelligent Mason, anywhere on the globe, would recognize a charter, diploma, or dimit, without the impression of the seal of the Grand or subordinate Lodge from which it purports to emanate. In requiring her subordinates, which were delinquent in that respect, to procure and use seals, this Grand Lodge but enjoined the observance of an ancient Masonic usage. But the Grand Lodge did not indicate whether the seals were to be fashioned from metal, stone, or wood. This was left to the taste and means of the Lodges. If Shady Grove Lodge had not the means to appropriate twelve or fifteen dollars to pay for a seal manufactured in the ordinary style, some ingenious brother might have carved one on the end of a hard stick, to be used by the Lodge until its finances were in an improved condition. The surrender of the charter was a desperate remedy for the burthen complained of."

He reports St. John's College to be doing well, and bespeaks its favorable consideration at the hands of the Grand Lodge, and recommends that action be taken to preserve the Masonic history of the State.

Sixteen Lodges were chartered, seven dispensations continued, and two ordered to issue. As usual, the surplus funds were given to St. John's College. The use of Masonic emblems upon public signs or other advertisements, as a means of inducing custom or patronage to men in business enterprise, was unanimously condemned. It was ordered that no fee should be charged for affiliation, if application was made within six months of coming

into the jurisdiction of the Lodge, but if not made within that time, "he shall then pay an initiation fee of the usual amount." The last provision we should deem unwise.

The report on foreign correspondence was submitted by Bro. C. B. MOORE, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-five Grand Bodies, including ours. We have the Great Falls books again. Our brother heartily disapproves of Masonic jewelry, and as heartily approves of brethren living together in unity, and reads Bros. GUILBERT of Iowa, and BARRY, of Georgia, a lesson for the hard names they called each other; though, not unnaturally, he thinks Bro. BARRY has some little palliation, which he cannot see in the case of Bro. GUILBERT, while to us, the provocation seems about equally insufficient.

C A L I F O R N I A .

The nineteenth annual communication of this Grand Lodge commenced at San Francisco, October 13th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and forty-nine Lodges were represented.

The M.: W.: WILLIAM A. DAVIS, G.: M.:, in his address, reports having granted six dispensations for new Lodges; that he upheld the law against the admission of maims, but permitted their advancement; that some system of annual inspection of the Lodges was necessary; (our California brethren have not heretofore seen any use for District Deputy Grand Masters); he recommends action in relation to San Francisco Board of Relief.

This Grand Lodge has a valuable Masonic library, and the Grand Secretary reports an addition of thirty-five volumes during the year, on reading the titles of some of which we were almost tempted to disobey the command, "Thou shalt not covet," and sincerely wished that such a library was within our reach. We wish to call the attention of the craft in this State to the concluding paragraph of the Grand Secretary's report; the italics are ours.

"The only arrears for dues at the date of closing the financial portion of this report were \$3.75, being slight errors of two Lodges, which will be corrected when the accounts of the current year are made up; and it is pleasant to add, *as usual*, that the returns of every Lodge in the jurisdiction, for the current year, have been received."

The Masonic Board of Relief, of San Francisco, reports an expenditure for charity of \$7,461.03, of which twenty dollars was for a brother hailing from New Hampshire.

"Of the foregoing sum of \$7,461.03, disbursed for the relief of the sick and needy, there was expended,—

For Masons of California,.....	\$1,714 10
" Masons of other jurisdictions,.....	2,866 40
" widows and orphans of Masons of California,.....	658 00
" widows and orphans of Masons of other jurisdictions,.....	2,222 53

Being a total of..... \$7,461 03

No portion of the foregoing sum has been expended for any member of any of the Lodges comprising this Board, or for his wife, widow, or orphans, each Lodge in the city caring for its own sick, needy, or destitute."

The committee on address of the Grand Master reiterate his demand for an efficient system of inspection of the Lodges. We believe they will find none better than ours, of District Deputy Grand Masters, each having charge of a number he can fairly attend to. Six charters were granted to Lodges under dispensation, and one dispensation ordered to issue. Caucusing and electioneering for Masonic office was emphatically disapproved. The following shows the harsh and unjust manner in which our California brethren strain their laws to meet abuses which doubtless press hard upon them. But, as in the case of suspension of unaffiliated brothers, no fair construction of the language of the law would make it read as they do; and if it were ever so plain, nothing could justify the outrageous injustice of condemning a brother unheard, and without even a pretence of an inquiry into his guilt. No body of men, much less of Masons, can do that rightfully.

"The provisions of that section are, that any member refusing or neglecting to pay his dues shall be notified by the Secretary, that, 'unless at the next stated meeting, either his dues be paid, or sickness or inability to pay be shown as the cause of such refusal or neglect, he will be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.' And further, that 'if neither of these things be done, *he shall be so suspended*, unless for special reasons shown, the Lodge may otherwise determine.' This seems to be as plain as words could make it. '*He shall be so suspended*,' unless the Lodge otherwise determine for good reasons shown. The only discretion the Lodge can exercise is to remit the dues or extend the time for payment. If neither of these be done, he is suspended by operation of the law, and the Lodge has no occasion to take any action in the matter."

A brother pays his dues, but by some error, the Secretary neglects to credit him; such things have happened with the most

careful and honest of men ; he is notified by the Secretary of neglect in paying his dues ; he is prepared to show the error, but no, he must pay his dues again, or be suspended without trial. Such, the Grand Lodge of California declares to be their law !! Somebody wanted to bury suicides with Masonic honors, but the Grand Lodge, upon recommendation of a committee,

“ Resolved, That no Lodge in this jurisdiction shall bury with Masonic honors, any Mason who has committed suicide.”

The report on correspondence was prepared by Bro. WILLIAM. H. HILL, and ably reviews the proceedings of forty-two Grand Bodies, including ours. He reports the formation of a Provincial Grand Lodge for British Columbia, under the Grand Lodge of Scotland. He disapproves the decision of the Grand Master of Connecticut, that an officer reelected need not be again installed ; in a sense, he need not, as he holds the office till his successor is elected and installed, whether he or some one else be that successor ; but he should be installed, and is guilty of an irregularity if he is not, and such refusal or neglect may very properly be regarded as a refusal to accept the office, and justify a new election. Bro. HILL doubts about suspension being a proper remedy for non-payment of dues. We think we should, if such a law as that of California were offered us. He doubts if it is so serious a crime as some regard it. That depends much upon the circumstances and the animus ; it may be a serious Masonic crime, and it may be a very venial one ; the error is in fixing an invariable penalty like the law of Draco, and worse than that, making accusation, conviction. He discourses on P. G. M. GUILBERT, of Iowa, after the following manner :

“ When we first opened this well printed pamphlet, we missed, as the features of an old friend, that well-known and extensively commented upon ‘ spread eagle ’ style of Past Grand Master GUILBERT. ‘ Alas ! ’ said we, ‘ shall we never gaze upon his like again ? nor be again carried several miles beyond the top of Olympus, and all those Mounts of old ? ’ But we were mistaken. Our well-meaning but exceedingly eccentric brother has laid down the Grand Master’s pen, but only to spread himself over additional acres (more or less), as the chairman of the committee on foreign correspondence. His report is in the appendix, and *only* covers one hundred and sixty-six pages ! And *such* a report, we venture to say, was never before written by mortal man, be he Mason or otherwise—no Grand Lodge proceedings ever before provoked more wholesale laughter than this—for he who reads must have the double-distilled blues, if he can resist a prolonged cachinnation ! We would like to quote a few pages, just to enliven this very dull and prosy essay of our own, but must be

content with a few gems only. We hope our Iowa brethren have stereotyped this wonderful report, that generations yet unborn may see and read the sayings of Bro. GUILBERT in the year of Light 5867."

He approves the action of our Grand Lodge in the Great Falls matter, and on the subject of army Lodges, but does not think so well of District Deputy Grand Masters. If he were here, he would be as well satisfied of their utility as we are.

We fully endorse the following, from his review of New Jersey :

"The mission of Masonry is rather with the present than with the hereafter ; rather with things temporal than with things eternal. Its labors and influences are directed to ameliorate the conditions of human life. It seeks to open the fountains of benevolence, to make the selfish man less selfish, the avaricious man less avaricious, to soften the hard heart, and to bring the erring back into the path of duty. It stretches out its hands to succor the needy and the orphan, to dry the widow's tear, to cause the sun to shine where shadow had rested, to make life a joy and not a burden, and to smooth the pillow of suffering and death. It concedes to the Church the more honored, influential, and sacred position, but strives, in its own peculiar way, and by its own peculiar influences, as a handmaid of the Church, to assist her in every good and perfect work."

Of the Grand Lodge of Nevada, and the Mormons, he says :

"Our Oregon brother is of the opinion that the Grand Master of Nevada was a little too severe in his animadversions upon Mormons and Mormonism, and the unsuitableness of both for Masonic fellowship. In this we differ from our worthy brother, and are of the opinion that if he were as near this foul national ulcer as is our Nevada brother, he would think and speak about as plainly and pointedly of its undesirableness."

C A N A D A .

The thirteenth annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at London, in the Province of Ontario, July 8th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and sixty chartered Lodges and ten under dispensation were represented.

The M.·. W.·. W. M. WILSON, G.·. M.·., suitably notices the death of distinguished brethren of that jurisdiction ; alludes to the murder of THOMAS D'ARCY McGEE, and the attempted assassination of the Duke of Edinburgh, in terms, that if the Fenians only had a Grand Lodge and committee of correspondence like some we wot of, would have brought a storm on his head for mixing politics with his Masonry ; mentions the formation of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, and recommends its recognition ; speaks of a General Grand Lodge for the Dominion,

in terms that indicate little hope of its establishment. He thus speaks of the selection of Masters, words of truth and soberness, which all Lodges should heed, here as well as there :

“ In connection with these matters, there is one evil existing to which I trace many of the difficulties which are now of so frequent occurrence ; I allude to the want of a proper care, and to the neglect of Masonic law and principle, too often evinced by the members of the craft in the selection of those who are to govern our subordinate Lodges. Brethren are too often selected as rulers, merely because their social qualities may be of a high order, and often, also, from their general popularity, without duly considering their ability to work the Lodge, their administrative capacity to govern it, or their possession of those still higher qualities which are so essential to the successful carrying on of the great work of Masonry. In selecting your Masters, let me entreat you, my brethren, always first to consider your duty to Masonry and to your Lodge. This important duty can never properly be performed, if you place in the chair one who has to rely upon others for doing that which he is incapable of performing himself.”

He reports having granted twelve dispensations for new Lodges. Twelve warrants were ordered to issue to the Lodges working under dispensation. The constitution was so amended as to require the board of general purposes, a sort of committee, who do all the work here assigned to the several standing committees and some more, to meet two days before the meeting of the Grand Lodge, and to pay them per diem and mileage. On the recommendation of the board of general purposes, the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was recognized and welcomed as the only Masonic authority in New Brunswick. Of the General Grand Lodge, the board of general purposes say :

“ The question of establishing a General Grand Lodge being one surrounded with issues that require the nicest discrimination, it is a source of much gratification to your board to know that the matter has been treated with so much judicious caution by our M. W. Grand Master, who truly remarks that any precipitate haste on the part of indiscreet friends would assuredly retard the successful consummation of so desirable an end.”

The time when such a body could be established has probably passed, and, with the experience of such bodies this side the border, happily passed.

The report on foreign correspondence was submitted by Bro. THOMAS WHITE, Jr., and reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Lodges, one of which was ours. The Grand Lodge of Connecticut having refused to recognize that of Nova Scotia, on the ground that it was the offspring of “ secession and revolution,” the Canada committee say :

"The Committee, and the Grand Lodge in accepting their report, appear to have overlooked the fact that Nova Scotia has for years been occupied by three distinct governing authorities, and was, in fact, in the strict Masonic sense of the term, 'un-occupied territory' until the local Grand Lodge was established."

Of maims, and the opinions of authorities on the question of their admission, our brother says :

"It is a curious fact that the authorities on this question are very nearly divided. We are inclined to think that but for the peculiar circumstances of the country, there would be no such division, and that the heart, rather than the head, prompts to laxity in this respect. That men who, in the nation's hour of great trial, went to the front and bore the brunt of battle, and who have come back bearing with them the evidences of the terrible struggle they have gone through, should have to pay a further penalty for their patriotism by being debarred from the right to enter our sacred portals, seems hard. The rule, however, is a clear one, and can only be relaxed by a violation of an ancient landmark."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

We have received the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, for the year of Light, 5868, A. D. 1868. Several special communications were held to lay corner stones and perform similar ceremonies. On the 5th of May, the Grand Lodge met in semi-annual communication, all the Lodges in the jurisdiction, sixteen in number, being represented. The business was wholly of local interest, and shows a state of great prosperity among the Lodges.

The annual communication was held November 3d, at which all the Lodges were again represented. The Grand Visitor and Lecturer, R.·. W.·. D. B. SEARLE, thus touches upon an evil which is everywhere severely felt :

"I have been for a long time deeply impressed with a general want of desire among the body of Masons to obtain that true knowledge of Masonry that extends beyond the *ritual*, and reaches the spirit and object of our order. I regret that so many seem to be contented with merely receiving the degrees, or satisfied with permission to sit in the Lodge and admire its workings, yet do not have any desire to search for its hidden and beautiful mysteries that lay buried in darkness and are unknown to those who do not seek to obtain them. Masons should remember that by merely taking the '*degrees*' they have but reached the threshold of Masonry, and further, that all the beauties of Masonry are afterwards to be discovered only by those who will apply themselves in studying that which will disclose and bring to light the hidden treasures. Those who have no desire to obtain this knowledge, I believe are useless material to the craft. By such I mean the admission of members who have no desire to become active and bright workmen."

An installation communication was held December 28th, at which fifteen Lodges were represented. M. W. BENJAMIN B. FRENCH, Grand Master, reports having granted dispensations, in two instances, to Lodges to hold stated communications at different times from those provided in the by-laws. We cannot understand how this can be. He had also granted a dispensation to reconsider an unfavorable ballot. As we had learned the laws of our institution, this could not be done, and we should fear it would be productive of great injury to the craft. There is too much tendency now to inquire into and question the propriety of the use of the black ball; and let it be understood that there is a loop-hole to try it again, and such disposition will be strongly increased. The Grand Master also reports two dispensations for new Lodges. He also recommends another stated meeting of the Grand Lodge, in the month of January.

Charters were granted to the two Lodges under dispensation; the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was recognized; on recommendation of the committee on finance, the following were adopted:

Resolved, That hereafter no gloves or aprons shall be furnished to any member of the Masonic fraternity (except its Grand Officers) by this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That no member shall appear in any Masonic procession without conforming to the rules in relation thereto, that is to say: he shall wear black coat and pants, black hat, white gloves, and a white lamb-skin apron.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recommend to each and every brother to purchase, without delay, a lamb-skin apron and white gloves, to be worn by them on all public Masonic processions."

The report on foreign correspondence was submitted by Bro. M. C. BAXTER, and acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Lodges, including ours; but he only briefly notices those of thirteen, among which ours is not.

CONNECTICUT.

This Grand Lodge held its eightieth annual communication at Hartford, May 13th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Eighty-six warranted Lodges and two under dispensation were represented.

The Grand Master, M. W. WM. STORER, commences his address with a beautiful tribute to Masonry, from which we quote:

"Freemasonry is something more than a mere system of forms and ceremonies. It is a living reality,—a tangible good; and while it does not claim to be religion, or even a substitute for religion, it has, nevertheless, a direct tendency to make all men better who will practice its teachings. It inculcates every virtue, and discountenances every vice. It teaches its votaries to be temperate in all things; to be fearless, though not reckless, in maintaining the right; to be cautious and prudent in the indulgence of thought, word and action; to practice the strictest and most inflexible integrity in all their dealings. It is a noble science, and opens to the searcher for truth an unfathomable depth of knowledge. He who most diligently pursues the profound study of Masonry, is most thoroughly aware that there is much more yet to be learned."

He reports having granted two dispensations for new Lodges. Also, in two instances, dispensations to reconsider an unfavorable ballot. Where did he get his authority to do it, we wonder? He also, against his own first and better opinion, granted a dispensation to elect a new Master. He decided:

"Although a charter may be voted to any proper number of petitioners by the Grand Lodge, no Lodge is in existence under that charter, until the instrument itself has been delivered and the Lodge duly constituted."

Three charters were granted for new Lodges, one of them not having worked under dispensation. It was then—

"*Resolved*, That the representatives present from the several Lodges, to which charters have been voted at the present Grand Communication, be admitted as members of this Grand Lodge."

Compare this with the undoubtedly correct decision of the Grand Master, just quoted. The impropriety and folly of such action is seen in the subsequent action by which the vote granting a charter to one of the Lodges was reconsidered and recommitted to the committee, who made no other report, and no further action taken; yet this embryo Lodge, still-born as it turns out, is admitted to rule the craft. It was ordered that copies should be kept of all charters, and that the Lodges return to the Grand Secretary copies of their charters, which is an excellent idea we might copy to advantage. The following may produce good results, and furnish a remedy for a very common complaint:

"*Resolved*, That whenever it shall come to the knowledge of a subordinate Lodge in this State, that any person shall have obtained the degrees of Masonry during a temporary absence therefrom, and in violation of the regulations of this Grand Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction said person shall reside, without delay, to present charges against him, and proceed with his trial in due form."

The report on correspondence, prepared by the Grand Secretary, Bro. Jos. K. WHEELER, reviews the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. He thus quotes one resolution passed by the Grand Lodge of Florida, and comments upon it:

“ *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge does not recognize negro equality with the whites.

“ We would ask here, what has this to do with Masonry ? ”

He understands G. M. PECK, of Iowa, to propose separate Lodges for negroes, and thus comments :

“ We are of the opinion that the subject should be disposed of in the same manner as the German question. ‘ Would not the tendency be to separate ’ the negroes from the whites, ‘ whereas Masonry ought to unite them.’ If the negroes are worthy to gain admission, why not receive them into our own Lodges, and would they not be more benefited by the association than if set apart by themselves. We are opposed to any caste in Masonry, and if they cannot be received into our *own* Lodges, we deem it unwise to establish negro Lodges for that purpose, in opposition to the feelings of a large part of the present members of the institution. It is no reason to urge that because Lodges are in some jurisdictions making Masons of Indians, the negro should be entitled to the same privilege, for Lodges in some, if not all jurisdictions, are making Masons of material that should be rejected.”

He emphatically disapproves of dispensations for degrees ; thinks those made out of the proper jurisdiction are not clandestine, but should be refused recognition at home. Kentucky returns the number of ministers belonging to the fraternity in that State, and our Connecticut brother asks them, next time, to let us know the number of blacksmiths in their jurisdiction. In his notice of the address of the Grand Master of Louisiana, he says :

“ He says there seems to be a pressure from several sources for some modification or evasion, (by special dispensation), of that clause in the constitution, which *positively* forbids the reconsideration of an unfavorable ballot, and being well convinced that it would be unsafe to deviate in the least from this regulation, has refused to dispense with the requirement. We would copy his views on the subject, had we not already alluded to the sacredness of the ballot in some other place. We however agree with him fully in regard to the subject.”

Of non-affiliation, he thus writes, *apropos* to Minnesota ;

“ The Grand Master recommends that the subject be referred to a special committee, to take into consideration whether they should not pay dues to the Lodge in whose jurisdiction they reside, or affiliate within a specified time or be suspended.

We fail to see how either of the recommendations can do much good, for the majority of non-affiliated Masons become so in consequence of the non-payment of dues, and to undertake to enforce dues upon them, would simply be ridiculous; to suspend them for non-affiliation would be unjust, and to compel them to affiliate, might be impossible, for they must depend solely on the suffrages of their brethren for this privilege. It is indeed a vexed question, and we trust ere long, some satisfactory solution will be arrived at."

D E L A W A R E.

The sixty-second annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Wilmington, June 27th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Seventeen Lodges were represented.

The M.·. W.·. DANIEL MCCLINTOCK, Grand Master, reports that, although requested, he has granted *no* dispensations to confer degrees, and he strongly reprehends such dispensations. He decided that when an applicant had been previously rejected in another jurisdiction, he could not be received without the consent of the Lodge which rejected him—of the correctness of which, there can be no doubt; but when two members of the committee of investigation signed the report in blank, supposing it was to be favorable, but the chairman filled it up unfavorable, the Secretary, by mistake read it favorable, the objecting brother being absent, the ballot was passed and the candidate elected, he decided:

“ *The candidate* is duly and regularly *elected*. When a ballot is held for a candidate, all members present taking part therein, the ballot fair, the candidate declared by the W. M., duly elected, it can only be reconsidered at the same meeting, when all the members who participated in the first ballot must be present. The law in this instance I refer to, so far as the ballot, would be the same whether the committee’s report is favorable or otherwise.

“ Should a committee report unfavorably, and none of them be present when the report was acted upon, and by any means the candidate elected, they would have the right, as any member or visiting brother would, to object to the conferring of the degrees, but the W. M. would be the judge as to whether they were valid or not, and would be presumed to take such action as would promote unity and harmony.”

We should doubt whether such proceedings could be considered regular in any view, but if they were, we deem the better view to be, that any member possesses the right at any time, without giving any reason, to stop the candidate until he is made a Mason, by informing the Master of his objection, whose duty it then is, to state that the candidate is rejected, objection having been made to him, and the name of the brother making the objection is one

of the secrets of the chair which he has no right to reveal. No one, however worthy, should be forced into the companionship of a brother, against his will, and the craft is in much more danger from the introduction than the rejection of candidates. He thinks a suicide, if the act was done in a state of insanity, may be buried with Masonic honors, but if sane, he could not.

One warrant was granted for a new Lodge, and the proceedings show a new life and spirit, and an obvious determination to correct all irregularities, which induces us to hope that the action which we condemned so heartily last year may be corrected ere long.

The report on correspondence, from the pen of the very able Grand Secretary, R. W. J. P. ALLMOND, reviews the proceedings of thirty-five Grand Lodges, including ours. He thus criticises a practice which, however circumstances in sparsely settled communities may seem to recommend it, will generally be found to work evil :

“ It would appear from the following resolution that Maryland is in the habit of chartering traveling Lodges, or Squatters :

“ *Resolved*, That the resolution passed at the last communication, granting permission to Mount Ararat Lodge, No. 44, to hold meetings at Havre-de-Grace, Aberdeen and Perrymansville, be repealed,’ which resolution was lost. Would it not be well for Maryland to establish ‘ Bush Meeting ’ Lodges ? ”

Our brother calls attention to the fact that we called their annual communication for 1866 the sixteenth, instead of the sixtieth, as it should be. That must have been the fault of the types, for we could not have knowingly committed such an error.

F L O R I D A.

This Grand Lodge convened in annual communication at Tallahassee, January 13, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Thirty-eight Lodges were represented.

The M. W. HENRY J. STEWART, Grand Master, reports having granted four dispensations for new Lodges, and that two Lodges have surrendered their charters. He announces the decease of M. W. P. G. M. THOMAS BROWN, whose reports on foreign correspondence, of which committee he was for seven years chairman, have made him generally known to the fraternity.

Our brethren at the South seem to have their attention especially directed to Masonic institutions of learning; and no amount of failure seems to convince them that Masonic bodies are not well adapted to conduct such enterprises. Two different projects were presented to the Grand Lodge, and each finally received some measure of countenance. Five charters were granted to new Lodges, three of which, however, seem to have been to take the place of others, which the devastations of war had laid waste and destroyed. The other proceedings were of merely local interest. There was no report on correspondence, but a new constitution was proposed, read, and printed for the Lodges, and ordered to be considered at the next annual communication.

G E O R G I A .

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge convened at Macon, October 27th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Two hundred and thirteen chartered Lodges and three under dispensation were represented.

The M.: W.: JOHN HARRIS, Grand Master, states in his address, that some want of harmony prevails in that jurisdiction from animosities growing out of political excitement, and that "bitter and vindictive feelings" from that cause have led "many brethren to forget their obligations to one another, and even that they were Masons," but he hopes the good example and wise counsel of the more prudent brethren, added to the soothing effects of time and reflection, will finally control and remove feelings so much to be regretted. He reports having granted one dispensation for a Lodge, to take the place of one whose charter had been revoked, and that he had not distributed the five thousand dollars his Grand Lodge had ordered to be distributed to the poor and needy, because accompanied and hampered by conditions and restrictions, which would render its distribution according to the strict letter of the vote, difficult and unsatisfactory, and so the hungry went unfed and the naked unclothed, for all the Grand Lodge did for them.

The Deputy Grand Master of the first district, R.: W.: DAVIS N. AUSTIN, decided, "that a candidate possessing mental and

physical abilities sufficient to enable him to discharge with promptness and fidelity all the duties imposed by Masonic obligations, is not ineligible on account of dotage." He also had decided that a Mason might be tried for offenses committed before he was a Mason, if they were such great moral delinquencies as to render his connection with the Lodges injurious to the character and public reputation of the craft, and also in case of felonies. We are not quite sure if the last be correct; we are inclined to the view that the Mason may and should be tried for offences before he was a Mason, unless they were such as were known to the Lodge at the time of making, or would have been known, had ordinary inquiry been made; our idea being, that our institution should be one of good men only, and all others should be excluded as soon as known, for the common good as well as common protection, our punishments not being intended to reform the offender, but to protect the craft. If this be so, the injury to the craft is the same, and the need of protection to the body of the craft, both from the contamination of association with the impure, and the loss of reputation from being in bad company, is just as great whether the offense was committed before or after any given date. If, however, the facts were known to the Lodge, it has already, in the most solemn manner, passed upon them, and should not go back on its own acts.

The R. W. G. W. ADAMS, Deputy Grand Master of the fourth district, reports having granted two dispensations for new Lodges; that power being given to the four Deputy Grand Masters which this Grand Lodge finds it convenient to have.

A considerable portion of the time of the communication was taken up with discussions upon educational matters, the Grand Lodge running one college, and being called upon to take charge, in whole or in part, of one or two more. The Grand Lodge refused to take charge of any more bantlings of the kind, and rather turned the cold shoulder upon the Southern Masonic College, which, however, seemed to have made something of a struggle the previous year, and was reported to be working successfully. We know of no instance, however, where such institutions have not proved to be uncommonly large and voracious elephants to the Lodges having them in charge. Four charters were granted for new Lodges. Three colored persons, acting as a committee of

Eureka Lodge, No. 11, working under a charter from "Prince Hall Grand Lodge, of the State of Massachusetts," presented a communication, as the Georgia committee understand it, seeking to learn the feelings of the Grand Lodge toward the colored Lodge, and advice about forming a colored Grand Lodge; and, for a wonder, our brethren kept their temper, did not seem to imagine that any wrong was intended by any legitimate Masons toward them, and the committee reported that they did not know any such body as Prince Hall Grand Lodge, and that they felt sure the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts would not invade their jurisdiction, and that no body but the Grand Lodge of Georgia could establish Lodges in that State; therefore they could not acknowledge them as Masons: which was precisely what they should do; if all our southern brethren were as wise, we should soon cease to hear the subject of colored Masonry talked of. The committee on jurisprudence reported, "that it is not in the power of a Grand Lodge to set aside the result of a ballot once declared." The correct rule; but, in one or two cases, we notice Grand Masters have assumed the power to do it. Such a power we deem too dangerous to be entrusted anywhere. The committee on the address of the Grand Master "admire" the prudence of the Grand Master in not attempting to dispense the charity the Grand Lodge had directed him to distribute, holding:

"It is on the subordinate Lodges rests the duty of dispensing charity—and this from their own funds. Certainly the funds of the Grand Lodge should not be touched for this purpose, except perhaps under extraordinary circumstances, which circumstances do not at this time exist. To indiscriminately scatter the hard-earned means and resources of the fraternity in the keeping of their trustees, the Grand Lodge, with no chance of adequate benefits to any, your committee deem unwise, unmasonic, and tending to the ultimate poverty of the order."

Well, the dispensing of charity is their own business, and no one else should interfere. Steps were taken looking to the erection of a Grand Lodge hall in Macon.

The report on correspondence was from the practised pen of M. W. SAMUEL LAWRENCE, and is admirable, both in tone and matter, reviewing the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Lodges, among which we regret to find ours was not one. He heartily approves the ruling of G. M. PREBLE, of Maine, some years since, that any member of a Lodge might inform the Master that, if present, he should vote against a candidate, and in that case,

it is the duty of the Master to have the candidate entered on the minutes as rejected :

"And would regard it an outrage upon the fraternity and the entire spirit of its landmarks and laws, should such protest of a member in good standing, unable to attend the particular meeting when a ballot is to be had, be disregarded."

He thus wisely, as we think, touches the negro question :

"Brother GOULEY thinks 'the time has come when every Grand Lodge has got to define itself on the subject of so-called negro Masons.' Our Grand Lodge has long since defined itself on this question, and others have done the same. But we really do not partake of the fears some seem to have on this subject. Except for the guidance of 'young and inexperienced Masons' it hardly needs that statutes should be passed to protect the craft against them. Save in some rare cases, where political bias may temporarily warp the feelings and better judgment of brethren, negroes will hardly be recognized among Masons for some time in this country—and then under a different status than that they now occupy to the fraternity. Social taste alone will be barrier enough for us for long time to come—and 'sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.' Armed with the ballot and the law prohibiting the introduction of a visitor obnoxious to any member of the Lodge, we are sufficiently protected, and will be always, if the landmarks are not innovated on."

We had marked several other passages for quotation, but we have no room.

IDAHO.

We have the proceedings of the convention to organize this Grand Lodge, at Idaho City, December 16, A. L. 5867, and of the first annual communication at the same place, on June 22d, A. L. 5868, at both which all the Lodges in the jurisdiction, five in number, were represented. In the convention, Owyhee Lodge, under dispensation from the Grand Master of Oregon, was admitted with one vote. We cannot but regard this as irregular, but as all the proceedings seem to have been unanimous, no harm arises but the bad precedent, which induces us to mention it, in hope to prevent its being followed hereafter. The constitution of the Grand Lodge of Oregon, with the necessary changes, was adopted, the officers elected and regularly installed. A charter was granted to Owyhee Lodge. It was ordered that the charters and records of all the Lodges should be annually sent up to the Grand Lodge for its inspection; what was proposed to be gained

by this very onerous requirement, we do not perceive. They are after non-affiliated Masons with a sharp stick :

"Resolved, That any non-affiliated Mason living within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, who shall fail or neglect to contribute a sum equal to his monthly dues for a longer period than six months, when able to do so, shall not be entitled to any of the rights and privileges of Lodges."

At the annual communication, the following was adopted :

"Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Masters of this body be required to have a life-sized photograph taken of themselves, as soon as practicable after their installation, for this Grand Lodge ; and the Grand Treasurer is authorized to pay for the same upon the presentation of an order by the Grand Secretary, who is hereby authorized to draw the same."

At this rate they will soon be far ahead of us. A charter was granted for a new Lodge at Silver City, the location of Owyhee Lodge. We know towns grow fast in that country, but two Lodges chartered in the same town in less than a year, looks as though something more than legitimate growth was at the bottom. There was no report on correspondence because of the short time since the organization.

ILLINOIS.

The twenty-eighth annual communication of this Grand Lodge convened at Springfield, October 6th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Four hundred and thirty Lodges were represented.

The M. W. JEROME R. GORIN, Grand Master, reports having granted *thirty-six* dispensations for new Lodges ; that the plan of District Deputy Grand Masters worked well ; urges the matter of a Grand Lodge hall ; commends Bro. REYNOLDS, for many years Grand Secretary, who had determined to retire from that post.

Thirty-six charters were ordered to issue, nine dispensations were continued, and one new dispensation granted, showing that the number of Lodges in Illinois is probably not decreasing. The recommendation of a committee to tax the Lodges for a new Grand Lodge hall was rejected, and the subject laid over one year. The committee on the Grand Master's address suggest caution in the too great multiplication of Lodges, as weakening the

old Lodges, and leaving insufficient support for the new. The system of District Deputy Grand Masters, a new experiment in this jurisdiction, had worked so well the past year that their number was increased to twenty-four, and measures were taken to make the office a constitutional one. The large size of the Grand Lodge, and the great difficulty, if not impossibility, of transacting the business, should all the Lodges be fully represented, begins to attract the attention of this Grand Lodge, and an inquiry was ordered as to what should be done. Probably, in several of the largest jurisdictions, Provincial Grand Lodges, like those of England, may soon be found imperatively necessary. This Grand Lodge, with a few others, has a Grand Orator, who must, of course, open his mouth and deliver an oration; but our brethren seem to have had difficulty in finding time for him, and once concluded to print his oration without hearing it, but finally, they found time to listen to it. We should think, where the time for business is so short in proportion to the work to be done, the talk, however fine, had better be dispensed with. However, tastes differ.

The report on correspondence is from the pen of Bro. REYNOLDS, the Grand Secretary, now Grand Master, whom but to name is to praise, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-nine American and six European Grand Lodges. On the negro question, he thus replies to Bro. PENICK, of Alabama, who was much horrified at the proposition of M.: W.: Bro. PECK, of Iowa:

"In the review of Iowa, M. W. Bro. PECK catches it. Bro. PECK made a labored argument in favor of recognizing negro Masons. His remarks were explicit, candid and respectful. What was the result? The Grand Lodge dissented from the views of the Grand Master by such a majority as to settle the whole question. Here is a difference of opinion; the question is fairly presented and settled. Why is Brother PENICK so sensitive? Is he disposed to agitate, and agitate, for the purpose of keeping alive the flame of resentment in the South and agitation in the North? It seems to us like an utter absence of either wisdom, alas! or discretion."

Our brother is considerably stirred up by Bro. GOULEY, of Missouri, who was severe on the practice of granting dispensations for degrees, and perhaps in citing the State of Illinois as an example, said more than was necessary; and Bro. REYNOLDS hits him back as hard as he gives. "*Let us have peace.*" He doubts whether the Wardens ought not to have the Past Master degree. We see in other proceedings allusions to such a degree, and talk

about virtual P.: M.:, actual P.: M.:, and Chapter P.: M.:, and P.: M.: not made in the Chapter. We should like to know what a Lodge or a Grand Lodge of Master Masons knows, or wants to know about any other degrees or pretended degrees in Masonry than the three *only* (we say *only* advisedly) genuine Masonic degrees of E.: A.:, F.: C.: and M.: M.: If there be any such other degrees, they are none of our business as Blue Lodge Masons, and if we attempt to legislate about them, we shall inevitably blunder before we get through. If there be a degree called P.: M.:, and the writer hereof thinks there is, as he has received it virtually and actually, in the Chapter and out of it, those who have it are probably capable of taking care of it, without our assistance as Grand Lodges of symbolic Masonry. Bro. REYNOLDS does the writer of our report for 1867 too much honor: he calls us P.: G.: M.: Our brothers have never conferred that distinguished honor upon that brother. Bro. REYNOLDS was probably misled by mistaking him for M.: W.: CHARLES H. BELL, who, some years since, was Grand Master. Our brother thinks we were wrong in our views of the controversy between Lafayette Lodge, of the District of Columbia, and Resurgam Lodge, of Iowa. Our view was and is, that the candidate residing in Indiana should not be made elsewhere, without the consent of the particular Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resided, and of the Grand Master of Indiana, neither of which was formally obtained. But no objection being made from Indiana, Lafayette Lodge may be excused for regarding the letter of the Master of the Indiana Lodge as giving the needed consent, and if so having commenced the work, were then entitled to finish it as against every one else, and if they yielded it, yielded it on such terms as they thought right. We understand Bro. REYNOLDS to hold that the candidate, having received one degree in one State and then removing to another, that the Lodge in the latter State, in whose general jurisdiction he resides, gains a right to confer the remaining degrees upon him, while we hold to the old charge, that no Master shall supplant another in his work, &c. Upon further reflection, we think, Bro. REYNOLDS must see that we are right.

INDIANA.

This Grand Lodge assembled in annual communication at Indianapolis, May 26th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and sixty-three chartered Lodges and twenty-three under dispensation were represented.

The M.: W.: HARVEY G. HAZELRIGG, Grand Master, replaces his usual review of the proceedings of other Grand Lodges, by a supercilious and sneering notice of a few of the questions mooted in the Masonic world, and an equally offensive reply to the suggestions which had been made, that Indiana should recede from her peculiar laws and customs, which are rapidly separating the institution in that State from the rest of the community of Grand Lodges on this continent. Grant all that Indiana claims, that in the particulars to which her attention has been called, she has in nothing exceeded the authority she has—it well deserves consideration, if it is wise that she should isolate herself from the rest of the fraternity. As was well said by Bro. CARSON of Ohio, uniformity of law and usage is even more desirable than uniformity of work, as it is really more vital to the nature of our institution. Bro. HAZELRIGG seems to us to claim the right to deny and disregard all landmarks except those which he has himself set up, but he might have done even this in a more courteous and fraternal manner. He acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand Lodges. The following extracts will show something of his manner:

"It would be tedious and become uninteresting should we give the congratulations of each Grand Master to the body over which he presided, the number of dispensations granted and the applications refused—the number of visits and the cordiality of his reception at every place visited. These are all appropriate enough in the jurisdiction where they occur, but nowhere else. Nor is it necessary that we should say how kind and lovingly the committees on foreign correspondence admire and tickle each other when agreeing, and how, unnecessarily snappish they become when they think they have been slighted or their track crossed, or something said that falls short of or over-tops their standard, while each doubtless, like ourselves, feel persuaded that their own course, if not the best, is at least as good as others. Our laws and practice is the result of no little reflection, experience, and observation; we never find fault with what others do or say, unless we are satisfied that some fundamental principle is involved, being content that others should govern their internal police matters as to them shall seem best."

"On the right of appeal from a decision of the Master of a subordinate Lodge, there is some room for doubt. I believe most all writers on Masonic jurisprudence hold that there is no appeal from his decision to the Lodge; but as these writers

mutually distrust and differ from each other on important points, thereby evidencing that all are not right, I feel inclined to doubt the correctness of so sweeping a declaration, as that there is no case in which an appeal to the Lodge from the decision of the Master would be allowable. During the ceremonial work of the Lodge, there are many and satisfactory reasons why an appeal should not be entertained; but there are many and important matters coming before a Lodge for its action that don't come under that class called the 'work' of the Lodge, and on such subjects, if there is not, there ought to be a right to appeal, and I [doubt] not there is such a right."

"In view of the many differences of opinion about ancient laws, charges and regulations, it is but the part of common honesty to say that they never were immutable; that the changed condition of everything pertaining to the affairs of the human family, and the progress of enlightened civilization has necessitated a change in these laws, while pure and unadulterated Freemasonry and the ancient landmarks ever have and ever will remain the same. The change in its laws and police regulations have no more effect upon its stability and unchangeable hieroglyphics than has the change of language upon the verity of eternal truth. They both are and ever will remain the same."

He reports having granted twenty-two dispensations for new Lodges and arrested the charter of a Lodge for making a Mason of a man with one leg, and recommends its revocation; the Grand Lodge however, restored it. He then puffs a Masonic history, of which we know nothing but his account of it:

"If all the Masonic books ever published were placed in one pile, and Brother MITCHELL's in another, and I were compelled to choose, I would take Bro. MITCHELL's. I do wish it could be in the hands of every Mason. It is what we want to show what is ancient Masonry, and what modern manufactory. The editor of *The Masonic Trowel* justly says: 'Brother MITCHELL is the only author who has prepared a complete history of the order. The author assumes that Masonry was instituted by King Solomon, and proves his assertion true, or that our traditions are false and Masonry a cheat. The Doctor is the first author who has taken the Bible as his stand-point, and attempted to prove therefrom that Masonry was instituted by Divine command for the overthrow of the heathen mythology, and to bring back the worshippers of idols to the knowledge of the true God.' Strong as this language is, I can now, from having examined the work, endorse every word of it as true. Brother MITCHELL is not only the first, but the only author who has placed Freemasonry upon its ancient rituals and traditions—established their truth by the language and teachings of the Bible, and then built thereon."

Eighteen charters were granted to new Lodges, five dispensations continued and five new dispensations ordered to issue; provision was made to have some of the more important and laborious committees meet before the Grand Lodge, and get their work done before the meeting—following in that the example of Illinois. It may well deserve consideration whether we might not advantageously do the same.

IOWA.

This Grand Lodge assembled in annual convocation at Des Moines, June 2d, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and thirty-one Lodges were represented.

M. W. REUBEN MICHEL, Grand Master, reports having granted twenty-one dispensations for new Lodges, the members of most of which he found to have recently come from other jurisdictions, from which he concludes that the new Lodges were not built up by dividing the old Lodges, and were therefore indicative of healthy growth. He had decided that a Mason suspended in another State, whose Lodge had become extinct, and he himself a reputable citizen of Iowa, could only be relieved of his suspension by the Grand Lodge of his former residence; and that desertion from military service was no Masonic crime.

Measures were taken looking to a permanent location of the Grand Lodge and building a Masonic temple, which it was proposed to effect by putting the location up at auction to the highest bidder—a method which does not commend itself to our judgment as suited either to the dignity or harmony of the Grand Lodge. Nineteen charters were granted to new Lodges, eight dispensations continued and one ordered to issue. It was decided that a Lodge in another jurisdiction had no right to try and discipline a member of a Lodge in Iowa, which seems to us too broad; if the brother is a resident within the jurisdiction of a different Lodge from that in which he is a member, the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he is, may, it seems to us, proceed to try him or complain to the Lodge of his membership. The Masonic temple coming up again, was laid over to the next annual communication for the action of the Lodges. Bro. GUILBERT is said to have read some part of his report on correspondence, but it does not appear in the proceedings.

KANSAS.

The thirteenth annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Lawrence, October 20th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Forty-eight Lodges were represented.

The M. W. M. S. ADAMS, Grand Master, reports having

issued ten dispensations for new Lodges, one of which was for Mt. Moriah Lodge, at Great Salt Lake City, Utah. This Lodge had formerly worked under a dispensation from the Grand Master of Nevada, but it will be remembered that M. W. Bro. DEBELL forbade their receiving either candidates or visitors who were Mormons, which ruling was approved by the Grand Lodge of Nevada. Their dispensation was continued one year, when on returning it, asking for a charter, the petitioners said if they could not have a charter without the prohibition relating to Mormons they did not wish it. The Grand Lodge, thinking this savored of dictation, promptly refused to give them a charter; they then applied, stating the fact, to the Grand Lodge of Montana, which refused to grant a charter, but referred them to the Grand Lodge of Nevada; they then applied to the Grand Lodge of Colorado, which also refused to interfere; they then asked the Grand Master of Kansas for a dispensation, as it would appear, without saying anything of their past history and obtained it. We cannot avoid quoting the following from the Grand Master's address :

"Masonry supposes the candidates for its honors in some degree intelligent, and requires them, if meaning to be true men, to extend that intelligence steadily while within an earthly Lodge. In other words, Masonry is knowledge, not merely of rituals, but of science, physical, political and moral; and demands a fair share of every brother's time for its mastery. Without such attainment, no man can expect to fulfill his duties to his fellow-men, to his family, or his Maker. Let the young brother mark this, and each day set apart a portion of time for that thorough self-culture everywhere inculcated in our instructions, and so vital to the perfection expected of him who has thoughtfully entered upon a Masonic life. He will find, let me assure him, work enough for his earlier years, enough for his mature manhood—yes work enough till the last sand be down."

The following decision of Grand Master ADAMS, states the law as we understand it:

"The penal jurisdiction of a Lodge extends to all Masons residing within its geographical jurisdiction, whether affiliated or not; yet courtesy would require that in case of affiliated Masons, the charges should be sent to the Lodge of which the accused is a member; then, if they neglect or refuse to take cognizance of the case, the Lodge within whose jurisdiction the brother resides may proceed to try the case. When two or more Lodges have concurrent jurisdiction, each Lodge will take exclusive jurisdiction of its own members."

The R. W. D. G. M., EDWARD A. SMITH, reports having granted one dispensation for a new Lodge. Six charters were granted and one dispensation continued. Among the charters

granted was one to Mt. Moriah Lodge. While there is no Masonic law which prohibits this course, courtesy to the Grand Lodge of Nevada would seem to have required the action of the Grand Lodges of Montana and Colorado; our brethren in Kansas, one would suppose, could hardly have expected that brethren who would be insubordinate and disrespectful to their former superior, would be altogether free from such conduct toward their present superior when any occasion should arise.

The report on foreign correspondence, from the hand of R. W. E. T. CARR, the Grand Secretary, notices the proceedings of thirty-five Grand Bodies, including ours. On the Iowa decision, upon which we have commented, he says:

"Upon this subject, we hold that every Mason is amenable to the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge jurisdiction in which he may reside, and a brother violating these regulations may be tried and disciplined by the Lodge in whose jurisdiction the offense was committed. We believe we have members of Iowa Lodges permanently residing within this jurisdiction, and we hold them amenable to our laws, but through courtesy we might proceed as they prescribe."

He quotes largely from G. M. HAZELRIGG, of Indiana, in relation to the powers of Masters and Grand Masters, and making Masons at sight, but without expressing any opinion. He notices that Nevada, Montana and Colorado had refused a charter to Mt. Moriah Lodge, at Salt Lake City, but of course makes no comment.

KENTUCKY.

This Grand Lodge held its annual communication at Louisville, October 19th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Three hundred and one chartered Lodges and fifteen under dispensation were represented.

The M. W. ELISHA S. FITCH, Grand Master, reports having granted fourteen dispensations for new Lodges, one of which he afterward revoked. He also reports that "*several*" dormant Lodges had resumed work, and two had surrendered their charters. He seems to regard the Grand Master as merely the presiding officer in the Grand Lodge, a sort of speaker, and is especially hard on the assumed power of making Masons at sight. It would be easy to show how the power originated and that it does exist beyond the power of Grand Lodges, or anything but the as-

sembly of all the craft to the youngest Entered Apprentice, to take it away, but it is a power which has no place in Masonry in this country and should *never* be exercised; therefore, we do not deem a discussion upon it useful. Certain brethren composing the Lodge at Lexington, proposed holding a convention of the Lodges in that part of the State, to consider the propriety of a division of the Grand Lodge. This coming to the ears of the Grand Master he at once issued an edict forbidding the meeting of the convention, and admonishing all concerned that such action would subject them and their Lodges to exemplary discipline, which seems to have had the desired effect.

The Grand Treasurer reported the resources of the Grand Lodge to be \$78,006.92. The following order was also adopted:

Resolved, That previous to the next annual communication, the Grand Steward and Tyler place numbers on the seats in this Grand Lodge, according to seniority, in order that Representatives may have desirable seats in preference to visiting brethren; and that in arranging the hall, the Grand Master's seat be moved to the center of the east side of the hall."

Where was the Grand Master's seat before, we wonder?

Fourteen charters were granted, five dispensations continued, and six ordered to issue. A committee could see no reason why Lodges might not be incorporated, but the Grand Lodge *recommended* its subordinates not to obtain civil charters, and appointed a committee to see if the act of incorporation of the Grand Lodge could not be made to cover all that is desired in that respect.

The report on correspondence was prepared by the Grand Secretary, Bro. J. M. S. McCORKLE, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-eight American and three European Grand Bodies. Massachusetts had provided that the acceptance of a civil charter should "operate as a surrender and revocation of its Masonic charter or warrant from this Grand Lodge." Bro. McCORKLE protests against this, if it is thereby intended that the charter shall be arrested without trial, and correctly, for nothing can be more unjust than to condemn a Lodge or individual unheard; but we see no reason why the Grand Lodge may not declare any act it deems improper shall amount to a surrender of the lodge warrant. If the Lodge afterward does the act, knowing the law, they cannot complain, and the only question to be tried is, whether the forbidden act has been committed.

LOUISIANA.

The fifty-sixth annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Louisville, February 10th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Eighty chartered Lodges and four under dispensation were represented.

The Grand Master seems, from his address, to have turned over most of the duties of the office to his Deputy, whose residence in New Orleans rendered him more accessible to the craft. The D.: D.: G.: M.:, R.: W.: HENRY R. SWASEY, reports having granted three dispensations for new Lodges, as well as performed a great number of other official acts.

Four charters were ordered to issue to Lodges under dispensation. Three thousand dollars was voted to Louisiana Relief Lodge, to aid in building a tomb on the new lots the Grand Lodge had donated in the Masonic cemetery. Bro. H. HAMBURGER presented the report of the Relief Lodge, by which it appears that \$3398. had been expended for the relief of stranger brethren during the preceding year. The Grand Lodge, the year before, had ordered the sale of the Grand Lodge hall and the purchase of a lot on which to erect a Masonic temple; the sale was not made but the purchase was, and the Grand Lodge was divided on the expediency of proceeding with the new building, and after two reports from committees, one either way, the subject was continued a year. A mania seems to exist just now for the erection of magnificent edifices for Masonic halls, which, with the ordinary magniloquence, are denominated *Temples*. They are apt to cause great embarrassment by the taxation which they almost inevitably cause, and in some instances great dissatisfaction, almost insubordination, is caused by remote Lodges feeling that they are taxed, and more heavily in proportion to their means, to erect palaces for others to enjoy. Still it seems probable that most of our great cities are to have such buildings erected by the craft.

The report on correspondence was prepared by R. W. Bro. JAMES B. SCOT, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Lodges, not including New Hampshire. He is strenuous against the advancement of maims; he considers the resolution about negroes, passed in so many southern Grand Lodges, works of supererogation, which, so far as the admission of colored men to the Lodges is considered, is no doubt true, but they are mischievous in that they deny the fundamental basis of the fraternity,

which is that of a society designed to unite men of every nation, sect, and opinion, its real basis being the universal brotherhood of man. True, Masonry seeks none but good men, but the internal qualifications existing, the external accidents form no legal ground of objection, and when Grand Lodges and respectable brethren attempt to undermine and overthrow the entire fabric of our institution, on account of some fancied fear that they may be required to associate with persons disagreeable to them, when to every dispassionate observer it is obvious that no chance of such a thing exists, it is then the duty of every true Mason to rebuke the false sentiment. It is said negroes are not free born; where true, it is a valid objection, which very few, if any, would disregard. It is said they are degraded and brutal, unfit for association with Masons. If any man is so, he ought not to be made a Mason, whether white or colored. Some have even gone so far as to say that the negro never can be educated to be fit to be made a Mason. If unfit, he should not be made; why not then rest satisfied with what are undoubted and unquestioned objections? Why abandon all these and attempt to stand on the entirely indefensible ground, that the man is *not white*? Suppose a man to be everything that is desirable, but the one thing, that is, color, is not like the majority of Masons; born free, as his ancestors for generations were before him, educated, talented, adorned with all Christian virtues, a refined gentleman, but black. Can it be pretended that in such case he is ineligible for the mysteries of Masonry? If it be said there are none such, there can be none such, then place your objection on the safe ground of valid and well known objections: he is not free born, ignorant, brutal, bad, or no gentleman, —not urge the mere accident of color. Bro. SCOT rebukes the intemperance of Bro. BARRY, of Georgia, extracts from whose report we gave in a former report of our own. In truth, the sentiment of almost all our southern brethren is opposed to Bro. BARRY's report, as that of all the northern brethren is to the somewhat similar intemperance of Bro. GUILBERT, the almost universal feeling being one of brotherhood, full of that charity which neglects to see the inevitable foibles of human nature. So may it ever be among the craft. Bro. SCOT defends the committees on foreign correspondence against Bro. HAZELRIGG, of Indiana, but it is hardly necessary—their utility is too generally acknowledged. He quotes the same history of the clandestine negro Lodges which

we quoted in a former report, which is erroneous in some particulars. The charter of African Lodge, No. 459, was not in usual form, although after reading the published copy of it, we fail to see that it grants the powers which have been assumed under it. It was not granted in violation of the rights of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, for the two Provincial Grand Lodges had each become defunct, or at least dormant, and the present Grand Lodge of Massachusetts had not been constituted. When the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was formed, no notice was taken of this Lodge, holding a charter from the same source that many of the other Lodges did, and this might raise the question as to the status of a legal Lodge existing in a territory before the formation of a Grand Lodge, but which the other Lodges refuse to receive into the Grand Lodge upon its formation. This charter was never returned, but is still held in Boston by the so-called negro Grand Lodge. Its being dropped from the register of the Grand Lodge of England took place upon the union of the "ancients" and "moderns." We think also, that it is claimed that some Lodge chartered by some Masonic power, true or false, in Hayti, joined African Lodge in the formation of the first negro Grand Lodge. These do not, of course, show that these Lodges as now existing, are legal, or anything other than clandestine, but having given the report, truth requires that we should correct such errors as we find. On work he says:

"Proficiency in the work is greatly to be desired, for, in the present rush of applicants for admission, the degrees are too frequently conferred in a hurried and imperfect manner. But even when properly conferred, the degrees are not complete without the lectures, or at least so much of them as will impress the newly made brother with the import and solemnity of our ceremonies. As to the lecture, we have never admired the catechetical form, except so far as it is useful to post up the candidate; but no degree should be conferred without the lecture being given either in that mode or in the form of a narrative. As to obtaining complete uniformity in the verbiage of the lectures, we consider the idea wholly chimerical. No arbitrary system can long be preserved without resort to modes which are unlawful—for the most retentive memory will sometimes be at fault. One man is gifted with a fluency of language, while another expresses himself in a terse and concise style, hence no two persons employ the same words to convey the same idea. Thus, while there are differences in the verbiage of the different systems, the great essentials are preserved in all. We have never been able to appreciate the benefits which the fraternity have derived from the wranglings and bickerings of the advocates of the different systems, and consider the rule of our Grand Lodge, requiring uniformity in the ties which bind us together and the modes of recognition, as the only one which can satisfactorily settle the much-vexed question of work and lectures. It gives an intelligent Master full scope to explain and illustrate the symbolism of the degrees, and

thus incite the initiate to explore the esoteric meaning of our ceremonies and symbols, which, even with the fullest explanation of their lawfully accepted teachings that can be given in the Lodge, are still the veils which conceal the hidden glories of Freemasonry from those who consider that a mere proficiency in the work makes them 'bright' Masons."

We had marked several passages of this very able report for quotation or comment, but the growing length of our report calls upon us to stay our hand.

M A I N E.

This Grand Lodge assembled in annual communication at Portland, May 5th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and twenty-nine Lodges were represented.

The M.·. W.·. TIMOTHY J. MURRAY, Grand Master, reports having granted three dispensations for new Lodges. He decided that an officer reelected should be reinstalled; as if not, as no officer can act until installed, he would continue to act under his former election or appointment, and not under the latter. On the subject of threatened attack upon our institution, he says:

"This condition of affairs, however, places upon us a responsibility; and the proper manner in which to meet this issue is of much importance. We should all bear in mind that ours is not a controversial or belligerent institution; that its spirit, as well as teachings, forbid us to wrangle or dispute about it; and that the best answer we can make to 'railing accusations' is to point to the lives and conversation of those whom we delight to honor. While no inducement ought to lead us into argument with those who may ridicule and falsify the character of our institution, there is a work for every Mason to do, that may redound to its lasting good and honor."

Five charters were granted and three dispensations ordered to issue to new Lodges. Lodges were prohibited from obtaining acts of incorporation, and Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND was appointed a committee to prepare a plan for the incorporation of trustees to hold the property and secure the supposed advantages of acts of incorporation.

The report on foreign correspondence was prepared by Bro. J. H. DRUMMOND, and reviews the proceedings of forty-four Grand Bodies, including all the Grand Lodges of the United States but three. Bro. DRUMMOND thus argues the question of the propriety of the surrender of charters upon the formation of a new Grand Lodge, and as it seems to us, conclusively. The surrender

of the charters in such cases, is quite a modern idea and, though doubtless well meant, is a mistaken one.

"This action is founded upon the idea, that when a new Grand Lodge is formed, its constituents must surrender their old charters and take new ones. This is not according to the ancient practice, and is erroneous in principle. The proper course is to have the charters endorsed by the new Grand Lodge. The Lodges should continue their existence. If they surrender their charters they at once cease to exist. They cannot have two charters at the same time; and it inevitably follows that if they surrender their charters, they put an end to their existence as Lodges, and the new charters are for new Lodges. When the Grand Lodge of Maine was formed, the subordinates retained their charters, and are still working under them.

"It is not necessary, in order for a Grand Lodge to govern a subordinate that it should also give the subordinate existence. When Lodges are chartered, they are created for an indefinite time. Lodges thus created may transfer their allegiance, in case of the formation of a Grand Lodge in their territory, and become a constituent of a new Grand Lodge. A Grand Lodge cannot be created without subordinate constituents. And it is a curious idea, and quite absurd, that after it has been created, its constituents must immediately die and receive new life from it! When they die, does it not die also? The true idea is, that the constituents from their location have the right to form a new Grand Lodge for *their own government*.

"The regularity of a Grand Lodge may be questioned. If not formed by at least three regular Lodges, it is irregular. The Lodges forming it should retain their old charters, in order to have the proper evidence of their regularity, and the consequent regularity of the Grand Lodge. If their charters, for other causes, are ever surrendered, the new Grand Lodge should retain them for the same reason."

"The endorsement of the charter is well enough, but not *necessary*. The Grand Lodge takes jurisdiction of all Lodges in the State, whether they will or not; and no act of that kind is necessary to show that any particular Lodge is under its authority. When the Grand Lodge of Maine was formed, all the Lodges had Massachusetts charters; and they have them yet, without endorsement or alteration. This whole matter was then examined by SIMON GREENLEAF and his associates, and the course indicated above adopted. We must say that it seems to us the only course consonant with reason and common sense."

Of the Past Master's degree he says:

"The installation of a Master is conclusive evidence to a Master's Lodge, that he has received all the necessary instructions and qualifications. We believe, therefore, either that the installing officer should be authorized to give him all these instructions, or if more Past Masters are required to give him *any*, the same number should be required to install. But as our laws authorize and *require* a Master to install his successor, he is thereby invested with full power to do so in every respect.

"If the installation does not include the conferring of the P. M. degree, there should be a record of it. Accordingly, we have seen a few instances in which there appears upon the records of a Lodge a certified copy of the proceedings of a Lodge of Past Masters, certified by order of the installing officer. But these instances are rare and of recent date. The record, therefore, of an installation must have included in ancient times, by force of the term, the conferring on the Master of the P. M. degree. And we believe that the old practice was for the installing officer alone (if necessary) to confer this degree; that such should be the practice now; and that

the practice of requiring a convocation of three Past Masters to confer this degree—[the decision in Minnesota (1865) which Bro. PAUL was criticising]—is modern, and was borrowed from another organization.”

Of making Masons at sight:

“ We hold that this prerogative of the Grand Master cannot be taken from him by a regulation; but we hope that the universal sentiment of the fraternity against its exercise will be sufficient to prevent its frequent use.”

Bro. DRUMMOND reviews the whole question relative to West Virginia, and holds that Grand Lodge regular, answering each objection that has been made to it, in all which we fully agree with him. Of negro Lodges and negro Masons he says:

“ This settles the *status* of all these bodies and their members; they can receive ‘no countenance’ whatever, not because of their race or color, but because they are, at best, but clandestine Masons.

“ Another question, however, has been agitated. Will regular Lodges receive negroes? And if so, must other Lodges recognize them?

“ Let us go back to the landmarks again. A candidate must be *free born*, and elected by the unanimous vote of the Lodge; and no visitor can be admitted to a Lodge against the objection of a single one of its members; and no new Lodge can be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge.

“ These would seem to be all that is required for this generation, at any rate; the law is simple, but comprehensive.”

“ Whoever sits in the Grand Orient of France must ordinarily sit with a negro brother; and it is useless to undertake to say, that the law of Masonry excludes a man, physically, mentally, and morally qualified, because of his race, or color. Lodges may not choose to receive a man of another race; that is their prerogative; but to allow political questions to cause innovations in Masonry will quickly destroy it. And we frankly but fraternally suggest to our Southern brethren, that their course in endeavoring to change the old rule opens the door to changes in the other direction. Let us, therefore, *adhere to the landmarks*, and sail our good old ship with even keel, avoiding Scylla on the one hand, and Charybdis on the other,”

MARYLAND.

This Grand Lodge assembled in annual communication, in Baltimore, November 16th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Fifty-eight Lodges were represented.

The M. W. JOHN COATES, Grand Master, reports having granted four dispensations for new Lodges; also a bequest of nearly twenty-five thousand dollars, by the will of Bro. SAMUEL PICKERING, formerly a member of Baltimore City Lodge.

The income of the grand charity fund for the last six months

was \$1870.; but the widows and orphans and the decayed brethren get none of it, the Grand Lodge itself seeming to be in the greatest need, and investing the whole income in Masonic temple stock. Five charters were granted to Lodges working under dispensation. The charter of one Lodge was declared forfeited.

The report on correspondence was again from the pen of Bro. WILLIAM J. WROTH, and reviews the proceedings of forty-one Grand Lodges, including ours. He suggests whether, as the ballot for initiation is on the admission of the candidate to the fraternity, any Master Mason present ought not to vote. The reasons for such view appear strong to us, and at one time it seemed not unlikely that such might become the law; but the final agreement of authority confined the right to members of the Lodge, and when anything is settled, we say let it stay settled. Like the Louisiana committee, Bro. WROTH regards a dimitt as necessary to affiliation, but we fail to be convinced. It is the duty of the Lodge to make certain that the brother who proposes to affiliate with them is what he professes, and is free from prior duties to any other Lodge; of this the dimitt forms the best and most convenient evidence, but failing that, we see no reason why all the facts should not be substantiated in some other way; and if the applicant is a Master Mason and free from all duties and obligations to any other Lodge, the whole object of requiring the dimitt, except "red tape," has been attained. He inquires if it would not be better to deprive all who remain unaffiliated for a year, of all the rights and privileges of Masons? Now, in this case, a brother removes from one town to another; desirous of doing his duty to the craft, he dimits from the Lodge he left, and from jealousy or spite, he is rejected on his application for membership in the place of his new residence. Shall he be punished because the Lodge won't let him affiliate? He asks the question, "Has a Lodge under dispensation the right to affiliate members?" As we understand it, Lodges under dispensation have very different powers in different jurisdictions; we suppose it to be competent for Grand Lodges to grant such powers to these Lodges as they may deem best, so that what a Lodge under dispensation may or may not do, can only be learned by reference to the laws of the jurisdiction where the Lodge is. We, in New Hampshire, give no such power to these Lodges.

MASSACHUSETTS.

From this Grand Lodge, we have an abstract of proceedings in the year 1868. At the quarterly communication, March 11th, eighty-eight Lodges were represented. Four charters were granted to Lodges under dispensation. One of the Lodges having complained that certain individuals living in their jurisdiction, had obtained the degrees in another jurisdiction, our venerable mother, thus unpleasantly made aware that there is something not right in Massachusetts, opened one eye partially, and directed :

" That whereas such a course is subversive of all good discipline, and dangerous to the safety and best interests of Freemasonry, we do hereby recommend that the M. W. Grand Master be requested to communicate with the Grand Masters of other Grand Lodges, and request them to unite with the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in adopting such measures as shall hereafter prevent such irregularity, and thereby enhance the safety of our beloved order."

At the quarterly communication, June 10th, seventy-five Lodges were represented. It was ordered that, Roxbury and Boston being united by the civil power, the jurisdiction of the Lodges became concurrent over the whole united city. The power of the civil government to affect Masonic jurisdiction, has, in some other quarters, been disputed.

At the quarterly communication, September 9th, forty-six Lodges were represented. Three charters were granted to Lodges under dispensation.

At the annual communication, December 9th, one hundred and thirty-four Lodges were represented. At each of the other communications, the committee on the Grand Master's address had further time given to make a report, and now, a new address being delivered, the committee and their report appear to be forgotten. The Grand Master, M. W. CHARLES C. DAME, reports having granted four dispensations for new Lodges. Of the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, he says :

" I am not aware that these brethren have yet succeeded in accomplishing their wishes in their respective Provinces, and I would caution this Grand Lodge to consider well the rights of all parties, as well as the great principles of our order, before making themselves a party to the questions in issue between these brethren and their parent Grand Lodges. Sundry documents received by me, relating to this matter, accompany this address."

A considerable part of the address is taken with the great debt

caused by building the Masonic Temple, and the difficulties caused by the extra taxation required to provide for it.

In the proceedings, we note the following :

"A petition signed by LEWIS HAYDEN and several others, claiming to be Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and asking to be recognized as such, was received, read, and, on motion of R. W. Bro. JOHN T. HEARD, was referred to R. W. Brothers JOHN T. HEARD, GEORGE W. WARREN, BRADFORD L. WALES, ISAAC HULL WRIGHT, CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY, TRACY P. CHEEVER, and CHARLES W. MOORE."

This is the negro Grand Lodge, and we shall look for the report of the committee with interest.

At the stated communication, December 29th, it does not appear that any one was present but the Grand Officers, permanent members, and the Grand Master of Rhode Island. The officers elected at the annual communication were installed, and the new Grand Master, M.: W.: WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, delivered his inaugural. It is largely occupied with endeavoring to remove the ill feeling caused by the increased taxation.

If the Grand Lodge would follow the example of the other Grand Lodges, and let the brethren know, not only the few extracts from its records which it now publishes, but the whole of its proceedings, and something, through a committee on foreign correspondence, of what was doing outside of Massachusetts, it would render their task much lighter, and would, no doubt, be of use to the craft elsewhere. As it is, the brethren in Massachusetts, knowing nothing of the Grand Lodge except from the imperfect recollection of those representatives who may be present, naturally feel that it is something of which they are no part, and merely telling them that they, by their representatives, are part of it, will not relieve the feeling that it is a Boston notion, and that, after fitting up their own halls, at their own expense, they are heavily taxed to fit a magnificent edifice for the Boston Lodges. Enlighten them, as the experience of other Grand Lodges has led them to do to their subordinates, and a large part of the present unwillingness to be taxed would be likely to disappear.

MICHIGAN.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Detroit, January 13th, A. L. 5869, A. D. 1869. Two hundred and twenty Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master, M. W. S. C. COFFINBURY, reports having granted twelve dispensations for new Lodges; that a brother in one of the Lodges desired to withdraw from the craft, saying that "it is not possible for me to endorse the institution, or to feel bound by its obligations;" that he would pledge his honor never to claim anything of the craft. The Lodge referred the question to the Grand Master. He decided that the Lodge could not accept such withdrawal; that the mutual rights and duties of the fraternity and the individual brother could only be dissolved by the expulsion of the brother for Masonic crime; but that a brother who declared that he could not endorse the institution, nor be bound by its obligation, might and should be expelled from the craft. All of which seems to us right. Bro. COFFINBURY presents to his Grand Lodge a magnificent scheme to erect a Masonic temple, to cost \$600,000, including land; to be paid for by tax on the members and by the rents, which he concludes could be done in twelve years. It would then yield an income of thirty thousand dollars, which he then proposes to apply in a munificent manner. ("Green suits my complexion best, green it shall be.") He also argues in favor of some system of so-called Masonic life insurance, which we fear would not be likely to work well.

Bro. BLANCHARD, the Grand Visitor and Lecturer for twelve years, reports :

"Go into the two hundred and forty-four Lodges reported within this jurisdiction at the last communication, and those working since under dispensations—question the Masters, the Wardens, and the brethren from the borders of our lower lakes, all over this Peninsular, and onward to the rugged shores of Lake Superior, where the Lodges are springing up amid their picturesque scenery, under the supervision of our worthy Brother FLANNER, R. W. District Deputy Grand Master for the Upper Peninsular, and everywhere you will find order and uniformity in the lectures, work, and minor details of the Lodges, as far as human imperfection will permit."

If true, this is really a wonderful result of the energy and devotion of Bro. BLANCHARD, but we fear our venerable brother has allowed the wish to be father to the belief.

The committee on the new temple made a report recommending action of a much more moderate character than the scheme of the Grand Master, but it was laid on the table till the next annual communication.

Bro. CLEMMER offered the following, which was adopted :

"Whereas, Many subordinate Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, either from want of a proper knowledge of the work and several lectures adopted by this Grand Lodge, or in willful neglect of the same do not comply with resolution, No. 20,"—

Followed by a resolution for the appointment of assistant Lecturers, which confirms our doubt of the accuracy of Bro. BLANCHARD's faith in uniformity of work.

Fourteen charters were granted, and two dispensations continued.

The report on correspondence, prepared by R. W. Bro. FENTON, the Grand Secretary, reviews the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Bodies, including New Hampshire, but is chiefly a compilation of matters of interest in that jurisdiction.

MINNESOTA.

The sixteenth annual convocation of this Grand Lodge was held at St. Paul, January 12th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Sixty-one Lodges were represented.

The first business seems to have been to dedicate the new Masonic hall, which had been fitted up to replace one destroyed by fire. At this time, an address was delivered by W. Bro. S. Y. McMASTERS, D. D. LL. D., Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. C. W. NASH, Grand Master, reports having granted seven dispensations for new Lodges, and renewed three others. In accordance with the vote of his Grand Lodge, he had appointed five District Deputy Grand Masters, who are also Grand Lecturers, for terms of from one to five years; had called them together, made strict search for the true light and the ancient work; the result of which is thus announced:

"The Deputies will present a report to this Grand Body, of their action in procuring the 'ancient work,' and they are prepared to exemplify the same at such time as the Grand Lodge may designate.

"I have made it a study, to examine and closely investigate this work, and as far as in my power, to obtain its history, origin and authenticity; and from all the light and information that I can obtain from experienced and eminent Masons, I am fully satisfied, that it is the genuine ancient work.

"My conclusions are as follows: That this work is that which Bro. WILSON received from Bro. BARNEY in 1817—BARNEY from WEBB in 1815—WEBB from PRESTON about 1795—PRESTON from his predecessors about 1775."

This result is wonderful, in view of the fact that PRESTON's work was almost wholly new, and his own, in all but the essential landmarks; that WEBB adapted his work from PRESTON with changes greater than are found in the most diverse work used in this country, leaving out Pennsylvania, in which the PRESTON-WEBB work was never adopted; that WEBB himself continually changed his work, as did his successors, GLEASON, CROSS, BARNEY, WILSON, and numerous others. The truth is, this search for an ancient work in which the exact language to be used shall be discovered, is wholly illusory. There is no such work. Pennsylvania has deviated less from the work of a century ago and above, than any of the rest of us, and the result is, the great difficulty which exists, in a Mason made elsewhere and with only ordinary instruction, working into Pennsylvania Lodges, and of Pennsylvania Masons working into Lodges in other States. The HEMMING work of the United Grand Lodge of England is still more different, yet no one doubts the right of that Grand Lodge to teach it. The mode of work derives its sole authority from the edict of the Grand Lodge, and not from antiquity, real or only supposed, and no Grand Lodge ever attempted to establish uniformity, that was not always, openly or tacitly, tinkering it. Whatever work any Grand Lodge sees fit to require (preserving the landmarks) is, within that jurisdiction, the only correct work, to which every Mason is bound to adhere. The work which the Grand Master thus lauds, is the ROB. MORRIS, Conservator, work, of which the claims to veneration for antiquity were so successfully dissipated, in the report of the committee of our Grand Lodge, some years since.

A committee make a long report on unaffiliated Masons, concluding with the following resolution, which was adopted :

"Resolved, That all non-affiliated Masons who are permanent residents within this jurisdiction, be notified by the oldest Lodge within whose jurisdiction they reside, to apply for membership in some Lodge within one month after such notice shall be given, and any non-affiliated Mason who does not make such application after such notice, shall be deemed guilty of unmasonic conduct, and shall be liable to suspension; and it is hereby made the duty of the oldest Lodge having jurisdiction where such non-affiliated Mason resides, to prefer charges against such Mason, and try him for such unmasonic conduct; and that the W. M. of the Lodge having jurisdiction be required to enforce this resolution."

The writer of this report has satisfied himself that these attempts to change the voluntary character of the fraternity are

ill-advised, and will be finally productive of evil. If a brother, for any reason, ceases to desire to maintain his relationship with us, no good will arise from attempting to force him to do so, and no advantage to the craft from the instant infliction of severe penalties.

The committee on ancient landmarks reported against a uniform code of by-laws, enacted by the Grand Lodge, and, as we think, wisely; the Grand Lodge should make such general regulations as are deemed necessary, and then leave each Lodge to make such local regulations as it needs. The difficulty is, that too many brethren, when preparing Lodge by-laws, deem it necessary to legislate upon all subjects, without reference to what the Grand Lodge has done. Let, however, the Grand Lodge strike out of such codes, when presented for approval, everything for which provision is made in the Grand Constitution and General Regulations, and this evil will soon disappear.

Ten charters were granted to the Lodges under dispensation. Upon recommendation of a committee, it was resolved, "That the granting of a charter to open a new Lodge, does not dimit the members thereof from the Lodge to which they formerly belonged." Which is contrary to the usually received doctrine. It was also resolved that a candidate rejected in one Lodge of concurrent jurisdiction, might apply to the other. We had supposed that the old law, that no Master should supplant another in his work, was not yet obsolete.

The report on correspondence was prepared by M.·. W.·. A. T. C. PIERSON, and ably reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. G.·. M.·. ENGLISH, of Arkansas, having wondered what Methuselah did in the long winter nights of his almost-a-thousand years, Bro. PIERSON thus assists him :

"Tradition says that Adam wrote books, that Seth made quite a number—that Noah preserved them in the Ark. Where did Moses get the data for his history but from the books that had come down to him—the first chapter of Genesis is evidently copied.

"God made man perfect and 'in His own image made He him.' If he was perfect he had all the knowledge which the finite mind was capable of receiving; as he lost his original state of perfection, it was natural that he should place on record the history of his time for the information of his successors. But perhaps Methuselah was not a reading man."

We never heard of the traditions referred to, but suppose it is all right. *Apropos* to the approval of a case of discipline for slander, he thus criticizes the zeal of his Grand Master for the *ancient* work :

"The conclusions of the committee were based upon the rules of *old fashioned* Masonry ; they, with Grand Master ENGLISH, of Arkansas, who says, 'that it is unmasonic for one brother to speak ill of another, though in so doing he may speak the truth,' will be classed as *old fogies*—behind the age—outlived their time, &c. The doctrine is too practical to suit Young America, and consequently in the new, *ancient*, genuine, printed work that requires a perfect uniformity in letters, all that about 'speaking ill' of a brother, or 'sustaining his good name,' &c., is omitted in the O. B. In these latter days, you will hear the instruction—and particular stress laid thereon—'you must say *at* Jerusalem, not *of* or *in* but *at* ; it is very important that you remember this *exact language* ; but where or how often is the instruction given, or if given, is it heeded : 'If a brother has faults, let the world know them by some other tongue than yours.'"

One of the greatest mischiefs our Lodges have to encounter, is the disposition of indiscreet brethren to grumble at, or even endeavor to penetrate the mystery of the black ball ; to all such brethren we recommend the following, told by Bro. PIERSON, on the authority of P.: G.: M.: TUCKER, of Vermont :

"An application had been made by a well-known and very popular young man. On the evening that the petition was to be acted upon, there was an unusually large attendance. The ballots were spread, and to the surprise of all his friends a negative appeared ; a second ballot was had, with a like result, but before the W. M. could declare it, several of the brethren had simultaneously risen, each declaring that there was either a mistake, or personal pique had operated, and demanded another ballot ; the W. M. weakly allowed the remarks, and ordered a third ballot ; at the word 'dark in the south,' brethren sprung to their feet declaring that it *must* be a personal pique ; that the young man was well-known, and his character above reproach ; so brother after brother was allowed to make remarks, until the circle from which the negative must have come, was narrowed to but three or four ; another ballot was demanded and conceded by the W. M. ; the ballot was had, each of the friends of the applicant watching closely those who had not spoken ; as the word dark was again pronounced, a scene of confusion ensued very seldom witnessed in a Masonic Lodge. Reasons were demanded, and even the W. M., giving way to the storm, requested of the brother who had been signaled as casting the negative, to give his reasons for so doing. The storm was hushed as an old brother, a physician, arose, and protesting against such a violation of the rights of a Mason, avowed that he did it ; he had hoped and desired to exercise his rights unknown and unquestioned. As he resumed his seat, other than complimentary remarks were indulged in by brethren. Finally the W. M. interposed, requesting of the brother, for the satisfaction of the Lodge, to assign his reasons. Amidst profound silence the old brother again arose, and after rebuking the brethren for their unmasonic course, said : 'I had hoped to keep my reasons a perpetual secret, but you, brethren, and you W. M., will ever remember that you have, as it were, forced me to speak. I know this young man to be a libertine. I know that he has seduced the daughter of a member of this Lodge ; the father does not know it—he is your W. M!'"

Bro. PIERSON, evidently, is not pleased at G.: M.: NASH's attempt to produce uniformity of work, and flings at it in several places. As we have already said, while we do not believe in the necessity or utility of such attempts to produce uniformity, we hold every Mason should bow to the decree of his Grand Lodge on that subject. Of non-affiliation, he says :

"Grand Lodges are very much exercised about the question of non-affiliation, and what to do to compel affiliation. We have known high-toned gentlemen, and even ministers, not that they are always better than other men, to be refused affiliation. Masons, who before and after their rejection never failed liberally to contribute when called upon, and yet they could not join the nearest Lodge ! Must they be kept out in the cold ? We say no ; apply where you please. In the present age, if it ever was, rejection is no evidence of unfitness, in either candidates or for membership."

"In Nevada, affiliation may be a question of dollars and cents, but we venture the assertion that it would make no difference in Minnesota. All that is said and written upon the subject of non-affiliation is predicated upon the presumption that every Mason *can* become a member of a Lodge, which we all know is not a fact. We know Masons of unimpeachable moral character, of high social standing, who are non-affiliates by compulsion—have applied and been rejected. Is it fair to deny many such Masons 'all Masonic privileges, rites and charities ?'"

In our report, last year, we doubted the propriety of the dispensation for Northern Light Lodge, at Fort Garry, in British America, as we had previously done of a Lodge chartered by the Grand Lodge of Washington Territory, in British Columbia, and upon the ground that the British Possessions were properly within the province of the British Grand Lodges, as the Territories of the United States were of American Grand Lodges. And as we then supposed no American Grand Lodge would concede to foreign Grand Lodges the privilege of erecting Lodges in our Territories, so we thought we should respect the rights of the British Grand Lodges in the dependencies of the British Crown. To this view, Bro. PIERSON replies :

"The *American* dogma of the exclusive jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge within certain territory, we recognize and approve. But none of the Grand Lodges in the old world recognize the doctrine. We also claim that our Grand Lodge has concurrent jurisdiction in territory anywhere where there is no Grand Lodge. We never heard that the world had been divided up into Masonic districts, and parceled out among Grand Lodges. We do not believe that the usefulness of a Masonic Lodge depends upon the political government of the country from whence its authority emanates.

"We do not believe that Northern Light Lodge would have made any better Masons for having gone to England—some 5000 miles—for a charter, than they now do, having received a charter from a Grand Lodge some 300 miles distant, and with the members of which they are in constant communication."

Bro. PIERSON thinks a candidate may be received on affirmation, agreeing with Maine. Most of the other Grand Lodges think differently, and we suppose we must assent to the general opinion, though we confess not to be entirely convinced. He approves the decision of G.: M.: FURNAS, of Nebraska, that notice to the W. Master, by a member, that he objects to the candidate and, if present, would black-ball him, is a rejection.

We had marked other passages for quotation, but we have already given Minnesota a large share of notice, and want of space forbids.

MISSISSIPPI.

This Grand Lodge assembled in its fiftieth annual communication at Natchez, January 20th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and forty-nine Lodges were represented.

The M.: W.: JOHN T. LAMKIN, Grand Master, alludes to the completion of the half century of his Grand Lodge; deplores the destitute condition of the people of that State, at that time, and calls for a full manifestation of "that brightest ornament of our profession—charity." He had decided that when a Lodge had elected an ineligible brother, as Master, *and the election had been returned to the Grand Lodge*, but he had not been installed, that a dispensation should not issue for a new election, but the Lodge remain for the year subject to the Senior Warden. Why, we do see.

The Grand Secretary reports having issued one dispensation for a new Lodge, by direction of the Grand Lodge, and ten more by direction of the Grand Master. One Lodge reported that they had borrowed money at three and one-half per cent. *a month*, which was eating them up (and no wonder), and asking for assistance. The committee on jurisprudence reported, that in the vacation they had decided that a dimit was not essential to gaining membership, but that the facts usually substantiated by it, might be established in other ways. The practice of having this committee answering questions, during recess, to whomsoever may ask, which seems to obtain favor in Mississippi, does not strike us as a good one. Nine charters were granted to new Lodges, one dispensation was continued, and one new one ordered to issue. There was no report on correspondence.

MISSOURI.

The forty-eighth annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at St. Louis, October 12th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One-hundred and forty-six Lodges were represented.

The M.·. W.·. WILLIAM E. DUNSCOMB, Grand Master, reports having granted forty-two dispensations for new Lodges. He had made the following decisions, among others :

“ Any member of a Lodge has the right to object to a degree being conferred upon an elected candidate at any time previous to his introduction into the Lodge, and the Master is bound to respect his objection ; nor can the degree be conferred until said objection be withdrawn.”

“ A Lodge has the right to discipline a member for an unmasonic offense committed previous to his initiation. When he petitioned the Lodge for initiation, if he had been guilty of a crime which the investigating committee failed to ascertain, he practiced a fraud upon the fraternity in presuming to make his application for the degrees, and for this fraud, as well as for the offense itself, he is certainly amenable to his Lodge. I am aware that a different ruling prevails in some other jurisdictions, but my decision seems to be in full accordance with the spirit and object of our institution.”

“ A member suspended for a definite time for non-payment of dues is not discharged therefrom upon its expiration, but is liable to be suspended again for the same amount for which he was originally suspended if he fail to liquidate it.”

The two latter are not uniformly decided in different jurisdictions, and the law can hardly be regarded as settled. The Grand Secretary reports having issued fifty-four dispensations for new Lodges, fourteen by order of the Grand Lodge, and *forty* by order of the Grand Master.

This Grand Lodge once owned an elephant in the shape of a Masonic College, but traded it off to the State, which assumed its obligation to maintain a first-class school, which it had not done. (The buildings were at Lexington, where a portion of the late unpleasantness culminated, and little but the walls were left.) Measures were taken to stir up the State to do its duty to that institution. The following resolution was adopted, the reason for which we cannot understand :

“ *Resolved*, That during the sitting of this Grand Lodge no subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction can be legally opened, or any business transacted therein, without special permission of this Grand Lodge, except to perform funeral services, as provided by sec. 19, art. XVI, by-laws of Grand Lodge.”

Fifty charters were granted to new Lodges; five dispensations were continued, and five more ordered to issue.

The report on correspondence is from the pen of the Grand Secretary, Bro. GEO. FRANK GOULEY, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Bodies, not including New Hampshire. He believes in standard by-laws, and complains of the reports of committees on that subject, because they, although intelligible to those interested, are not so to him. We suppose a man bound hand and foot, and chained to the wall, would not travel far out of the way, but would that be better than to be at liberty, even if he did sometimes get out of the path? Our brother seems to have an especial spite at the Ancient and Accepted Scotch rite, and whenever he sees anything which looks to him like that rite, it has an effect similar to that which scarlet has upon some animals, and he immediately dashes at it. It is said it was not always so. Now, however, he is offended that Grand Lodges should recognize Supreme Councils and Grand Orients of that rite, even when there is no other Masonic organization. He would permit foreign Grand Lodges to establish Lodges in our Territories, in which, we cannot but think, he stands in a small minority.

NEBRASKA.

This Grand Lodge held its eleventh annual communication at Bellevue, June 24th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Fourteen Lodges were represented.

The M.: W.: O. H. IRISH, Grand Master, reported having granted six dispensations for new Lodges; had refused to grant any for conferring degrees; and highly commends the orphans' school fund.

The Grand Secretary had commenced a grand library, and was much encouraged by the success of his efforts. Six charters were granted to new Lodges, whose representatives were admitted to seats but not to votes. Subsequently, however, a motion was made and entertained to amend the constitution so as to make the Masters and Wardens elect of Lodges to whom charters may be granted, members of the Grand Lodge. A step in the wrong direction, it seems to us. The committee on jurisprudence reported:

"The right of a brother Master Mason to object to the admission of an applicant for membership, or for the several degrees conferred in a Master Mason's Lodge, cannot be denied; and that where objection is made to the Worshipful Master, it is his duty to declare the brother or candidate rejected without a ballot, unless the objection be withdrawn, even if the objecting brother be absent from the Lodge at the time of making the objection, or when the balloting is ordered."

The report on correspondence, prepared by the Grand Secretary, Bro. J. N. WISE, reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. Of Masonic life insurance projects, he says:

"Now, we would not raise our voice against so laudable a proceeding as life insurance; it is a good and wise provision on the part of all who take out policies, and your committee are all policy holders in various good companies, but we look upon this system *in Masonry* as totally foreign to its work. As well might we endeavor to introduce other mercantile and financial pursuits within the sacred walls of the Lodge for the purpose of pecuniary benefit. To us it seems that if a Mason is anxious to insure his life for the benefit of his wife or children, he can do so very easily in any of the old solid insurance companies, where, we have no doubt, he can find a brother who will act squarely with him. The work before the fraternity to-day is of that character which should purge, purify and guard the order, and nothing should be *introduced* which might ever savor of discord. Popularizing Freemasonry is like spanning a chasm—the material may not sustain its own weight, unless the workmen follow the designs on the trestle-board. We are opposed to all innovations. Our work has withstood all the convulsions incident to the past, *as it is*, and as it is, it will endure through the future."

He thus discourses of Lodges under dispensation:

"The only remedy for the evils resulting from Lodges under dispensation is, in our opinion, a cessation of such work. It has always appeared, at least, very singular, to draw it mildly, that so much *empressolement* should suddenly develop itself in portions of the fraternity, that no patience could be exercised, no waiting for the next grand communication, nothing short of *dispensation*, in every case, answering the Masonic zeal (?) of the eager petitioners for a new Lodge. On the heels of the application, and oftentimes before, the applicants and most of the Masons in the neighborhood of the new Lodge ask for dimits from the regular Lodge to which they belong, and thus too often a wide swath of unaffiliated Masons is very injudiciously made by the ill-directed feelings of generosity on the part of regular Lodges. This whole matter merits the earnest attention of the fraternity, and we sincerely hope some decisive action may be had to check a growing evil."

These views will hardly find general acceptance.

Bro. WISE, too, don't like thirty-second and thirty-third degrees. He holds, that in the absence of the Master and both Wardens, no Past Master or private member can open the Lodge. Which is correct doctrine.

N E V A D A .

The fourth annual communication of this Grand Lodge convened at Virginia City, September 15th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868.

Ten chartered Lodges, and two under dispensation were represented.

The M. W. JOHN C. CURRIER, Grand Master, reported having granted two dispensations for new Lodges. He thinks the abolition of fees, on affiliation, and the life-membership plan, are both working well. He disapproves of testimonials to eminent (?) Masons, and calls upon those who really deserve them to refuse to receive them, that the fashion thus set may prevent their being given to unsuitable persons. He probably will not succeed in this.

The committee on jurisprudence decided that speaking disrespectfully of the Holy Bible is a Masonic offence. Two charters were granted to the Lodges under dispensation.

The report on correspondence, prepared by Bro. ROBERT H. TAYLOR, reviews the proceedings of thirty-two Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. He thinks that in the formation of a new Grand Lodge, a majority of the particular Lodges in the territory should unite, although he can find nothing in the old constitutions and regulations about it. We agree with him, and should not expect those old constitutions to provide for a state of things which scarcely arose before the present century. Like numerous other western brethren, our brother is dissatisfied with the ancient regulation, that no Master shall supplant another in the work, and is unwilling to lose the chance of making a man a Mason, because at some former time, in another jurisdiction, he has been rejected. He thinks that only members *present* should have the right to object to the reception of a candidate, but a majority of Grand Lodges hold to the safer and more conservative rule, that a brother may object, though absent. He thinks affirmation won't do.

N E W B R U N S W I C K .

The first annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at St. John, September 23d, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Twenty-three Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master, M.·. W.·. B. LESTER PETERS, congratulates his Grand Lodge that but two Lodges in the jurisdiction, both Scotch, have failed to unite with the new Grand Lodge. He reports the action of the board of general purposes, relative to a Masonic temple, and commends that enterprise.

The Grand Lodge fixed the first day of January, 1869, as the time within which all Lodges in the Province should unite with the Grand Lodge, or be proceeded against for contumacy. The remaining proceedings were local in their character and interest. There was no report on correspondence.

NEW JERSEY.

A special communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Trenton, July 31st, A. L. 5867, A. D. 1867, for the purpose of making financial arrangements consequent upon the defalcation of the Grand Treasurer.

At the annual communication, also at Trenton, January 22d, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868, seventy-six, out of the eighty Lodges in the jurisdiction were represented.

The Grand Master, M.·. W.·. WILLIAM SILAS WHITEHEAD, reports that he had granted five dispensations for new Lodges. He had decided :

“ No dimit can be granted without the affirmative vote of the Lodge. A majority has therefore the *power* to deny a dimit. Having the *power*, the question of *right* is for the consciences of the members.”

We think all membership should be voluntary, and a brother has the right to withdraw his membership from his Lodge, provided he is in good standing, and clear on the books. He thus discourses of the nature of our institution :

“ In the first place, that the Masonic Lodge is not the church, nor a substitute for it.

“ *Secondly.* It is not the *sole, primary, and fundamental* object of the Masonic institution to enforce personal morality.

“ *Thirdly.* The Masonic fraternity is not, primarily, a charitable society.

“ What, then, is the true, fundamental, and essential idea of our institution?

“ I hold that the central idea of Masonry, the foundation stone upon which the superstructure rests, is the recognition and practical application of the great principle of the universal brotherhood of man. Whether he drew his first breath amid polar snows or under the burning sun of the tropics; whether he owe political alle-

giance to an empire, a kingdom or a republic ; whether he be clad in the purple of Dives or the rags of Lazarus ; whether his skin be bleached with the hue of the Caucasian or be clouded with the 'shadow'd livery of the burnish'd sun ;' whether he worship his God in a Methodist meeting-house, an Episcopal church, a Catholic cathedral, a Jewish synagogue, or a Mohammedan mosque ; the great lesson which Masonry teaches to its votaries is, that 'a man's a man for a' that.' Creeds and forms of faith are good things in their places. I have but little faith in the professor of religion without a creed. Love of country is a glorious and beautiful thing in its place, and one of the noblest passions that can animate the human breast. 'If I forget thee, oh Jerusalem ! let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee in the time of my trouble, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth.' Political preferences and affiliations are good things in their places. He is unworthy of his birthright as a citizen of this republic, who has not fixed views upon the great questions of public policy, which agitate the state and country. But the great heart of humanity, weary of the unceasing and harassing strife of this busy and selfish world, where

'The natural bond
Of brotherhood is severed as the flax
That falls asunder at the touch of fire,'

longs for some common platform, where rumors of contentions on these and kindred subjects can never reach it more. And this eager longing of the human heart, the Masonic institution alone can satisfy. Here, we are all citizens of one country, which is the great globe itself; members of one family, which is the entire human race; children of one Father, which is God. And this, as I conceive, is the true idea of the institution of Masonry."

"And now, my brethren, I glean for every one of you, from these remarks, a lesson for the year. Deal gently with thy brother. If temptation overcome him, deal gently with thy brother. If the frailty of human nature cause him to deviate from the path of rectitude, deal gently with thy brother. If, amid the busy scenes of the outer world, the excitement and turmoil of life's battle, or under the burden of pressing cares, or in the relaxation of social intercourse, he shall, for the moment, forget his obligations and duties to the craft, deal gently with thy brother. There is much that is good in the world. Be generous in your judgment of all ; be hopeful in your hopes of all."

A candidate was proposed, it being known that objection existed, and that he would be black-balled ; the petition was put over from time to time; finally, the Lodge voted that he might have leave to withdraw his petition, with leave to apply to either of two other Lodges, and the objecting brethren left the Lodge ; which then rescinded the leave to withdraw, balloted for and elected the candidate, and gave him the first degree ; the Grand Master decided the election was irregular, but the committee on jurisprudence reported :

"Your committee are of opinion that the irregularity in the proceedings of the Lodge was in permitting the withdrawal of the petition of the candidate in the way it was done, and that action was therefore void ; this proceeding being irregular,

did not affect the standing of the candidate, and his election was valid, and he is entitled to advancement in the usual order, although the sharp practice of the Lodge toward those who objected to his admission, is open to censure."

This, the Grand Lodge would not agree to, but do not appear to have done anything more about it. The charter should have been taken from the offending Lodge, and the Master expelled. Eleven charters were granted to new Lodges. The total loss from the dishonesty of the Grand Treasurer was \$5,146.37. The report on correspondence was from the pen of Bro. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, the Grand Secretary, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. Of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, he says :

"The subject of Grand Lodge jurisdiction is here involved to a very great extent, and we cannot see but that they [the Grand Lodge of Virginia] still have the exclusive control of their original territory, as always heretofore acknowledged, and we believe that they have done nothing to forfeit that right. The fact of the federal government having seen fit to divide the territory into two States, does not change the matter at all."

If this be so, there is no legal Grand Lodge in the United States. The Grand Lodges of England stood relative to this country just as Virginia does to West Virginia, but the political power having maintained a separation, it was held, and rightfully, that independent Grand Lodges might and should be formed, and since, no doubt has been entertained in this country, that upon the separation of the political government a new Grand Lodge was a necessity. In the case of Maine, that course was pursued, and no one seems to have thought of the need of the consent of Massachusetts, or of surrendering charters; their dues they did pay, and so should the West Virginia Lodges. Bro. GUILBERT has touched our New Jersey brethren, too; he spoke of the "Commonwealth of Camden and Amboy," and called them "Blue Hen's Chickens," which they say belongs to Delaware. Now, Bro. GUILBERT "ortn't orter" said so, but we suspect if he had not flown his spread eagle quite so high in other places, Bro. HOUGH would have overlooked this.

NEW YORK.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held in New York, June 2d, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Four hundred and ninety-one Lodges were represented.

The M.: W.: STEPHEN H. JOHNSON, Grand Master, reports to the Grand Lodge the death of those eminent Masons, JAMES HERRING, REUBEN HYDE WALWORTH, and FINLAY M. KING. Of the complaints of the violation of jurisdiction by New York Lodges, he says :

“Difficulties of this character too frequently occur, much to the annoyance and disquiet of all the parties concerned; and yet we know that in most, if not in all cases, they arise from inadvertence, and not from any disposition to commit an intentional wrong.

“Our laws on the subject are sufficiently stringent, and if duly observed cannot fail to put an end to their recurrence in the future.”

The Grand Lodge of New York and its officers have uniformly agreed to the right rule on this subject, but the violations of jurisdiction still continue. We fear the truth is, the Grand Lodge has no *actual* authority (which it dare exercise) over its subordinates in the city of New York, where these violations of known duty occur. If she has such authority, let her arrest the charter of the next Lodge that offends, and the whole difficulty is gone; we shall hear no more complaints. As it now is, her subordinates care nothing for her discipline, more than they do for the well-understood Masonic law, which they have so long violated with impunity.

The Grand Secretary reports having issued twenty-eight dispensations for the formation of new Lodges. The trustees report the hall and asylum fund as amounting to \$284,167.87. Nothing was done further about a Masonic temple. P.: G.: M.: LEWIS proposed a plan for six District Grand Lodges similar to the Provincial Grand Lodges of the British system; but this and other projects to relieve the Grand Lodge were all postponed. The large business of this Grand Lodge will soon render some scheme like that of Bro. LEWIS's necessary. The New York City Board of Relief report having expended in charity, the past year, \$5,969.11, distributed among applicants from eight foreign countries, and twenty-six States and Territories of this Union. The negotiation with the People's College, at Havana, still drags

on, but legal difficulties prevent its final consummation. Twenty-seven charters were granted to new Lodges, and one dispensation continued.

The report on correspondence was prepared by M.: W.: JOHN L. LEWIS, and fully reviews the proceedings of thirty-six domestic and seventeen foreign Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. Of the address of G.: M.: ENGLISH, of Arkansas, he says :

“ He notes, as most other Grand Masters have done, that there is not an overwhelming degree of knowledge on the subject of Masonic law prevalent among Masters of Lodges,—not enough, in fact, to produce fatal consequences if it should strike in.”

Of the resignation or dimission of Masters or Wardens during their term, he says :

“ In this latitude it is understood that no one is obliged to be elected to office, but that having accepted an election, he also accepts the responsibilities attached thereto ; one of which is a solemn promise to faithfully discharge his official duties during the official term. He cannot apply for a dimit during his term without violating his official pledge ; and although instances might arise in which the officer might overlook this fact, the Grand Lodge does not propose to give him the opportunity, and therefore wisely provides that he cannot resign. As a general thing, there are more aspirants for office than there are brethren qualified to discharge the duties thereof, and it cannot be wise to increase the opportunity of unqualified brethren by facilitating their rotation into and out of office.”

Of Lodges under dispensation, and the views of G.: M.: SPARROW, of Ohio, who derived them from the power of the Grand Master to make Masons at sight, he says :

“ On this point we venture to differ from our distinguished friend and brother, and to submit that the power of Grand Masters as now exercised, to grant dispensations to open and hold Lodges, does not rest on any prerogative whatever, but on the will and pleasure of the Grand Lodge, expressed in its constitution and regulations, of which the Grand Master is the executive agent.

“ It is an undoubted prerogative of the Grand Master, derived from immemorial usage, to summon seven brethren, congregate them into a Lodge, and there make Masons at sight, as it is termed ; although this prerogative is now limited to making at sight in the body of a Lodge already regularly constituted, which is, in fact, nothing more than granting a dispensation to shorten the time, or, as it is phrased, to confer the degrees in cases of emergency ; but the occasional or emergent Lodges contemplated in the exercise of this prerogative, never had and never were intended to have a continuous existence. Their object being accomplished by the making, the act of closing dissolved the temporary organization into its original elements. Such Lodges were formed previous to the revival in 1717 by the sheriff's warrant, and after that time by the authority of the Grand Master. Lodges under dispensation are an entirely different affair. They are created for the purpose of continued

existence, and with the expectation that after they have exhibited their skill by labor under dispensation they will receive an unlimited lease of life by a warrant of constitution. In erecting such Lodges the Grand Master acts as the agent of the Grand Lodge, and by its delegated authority ; his discretion being called into action only to decide whether in allowing such Lodge to be organized he will be promoting the interests of his principal, the Grand Lodge. These be plain words, but a brief examination of and reflection upon the facts involved will show that they are true, and then it will also be seen that the powers of subordinate Lodges under dispensation are just those allowed to them by regulation of the Grand Lodge, and that they neither partake of nor depend upon any prerogative of the Grand Master."

Of the rights of a brother under charges, he says :

" He decided, and seems to regard the decision as indisputable, that a brother under charges is not entitled to any privileges whatever, except that of an impartial trial.

" We are aware that this opinion was in former years quite extensively, if not universally, held, but we had indulged the hope that discussion had thoroughly exploded it. We grieve to see it again announced; regarding it as we do in opposition to every idea of justice and fair play. To prefer charges against a brother is one thing, to prove them, very often, quite another. Suppose that under this ruling a brother should be deprived of all his privileges, and at his trial it should be proven that the charges had no foundation in fact, who is to compensate the brother for the flagrant wrong done him ? Punishment should follow, not precede trial, and no Mason should be punished until, after an impartial trial, he has been proved guilty. As a sequence to this ruling, Bro. ANDERSON decides that a brother under charges having cast a black-ball, the election of the candidate is not thereby invalidated, and he may be initiated. From our point of view, the proposition and its sequence are too outrageous for serious consideration."

Bro. LEWIS thus notices our report for 1867 :

" In his notice of New York he speaks of our review of European Grand Lodges as containing but little to interest his constituents. And he further remarks, that but few, if any, of these bodies would escape a rough overhauling from committees on foreign correspondence, were they American bodies and acting as they do. Our distinguished brother knows his own people better than we do ; but his estimate of what is interesting to them does not limit the area of what they ought to be interested in. We are all of us too much given to the idea that Masonry, as we see it in our immediate neighborhood, or as we know it to be practiced in our own jurisdiction, is as near perfection as can reasonably be expected ; and yet no reflecting man can deny that perfection is not given to man, and there is always something for the wisest to learn. There are, too, many brethren in all jurisdictions who think that Masonry is the same in France or Germany as in New Jersey, bating the difference of language ; and that in those countries Grand Lodges are occupied as in this, in deciding questions of Lodge jurisprudence. It ought to be a matter of interest to these brethren, wherever they may be, to rise to a higher knowledge of the institution, and not only to discover the differences that do exist, but the reasons why, the spirit being the same, the forms should so widely differ. It seems to us that the annual review given in connection with this report is a means of education that should not be neglected, and that the brethren would find their profit in giving it attentive perusal and consideration."

As we, last year, came to much the same conclusion, we again give our brethren the benefit of the New York committee's labors on the European proceedings, and bespeak the careful reading of it. We have omitted so much as relates to the internal affairs of the late Grand Lodge of Hanover :

EUROPEAN GRAND LODGES.

FRANCE.

The annual communication of this Grand Orient was held in the city of Paris on the 10th day of June last, 282 subordinate bodies, of various grades, being represented by 269 brethren.

Grand Master MELLINET presided and opened the session by a brief address, in which he congratulated the brethren upon the continued prosperity attending their labors.

The finances are declared to be in a most satisfactory condition.

Speaking of the debates on the regulations about to be adopted, he reminds the Grand Orient that sound reasons are to be offered rather than fine speeches.

He refers to the disposition made manifest by some Lodges to admit atheists to initiation, and invites such a formal declaration on the subject as shall forever set the question at rest and maintain the true character of the institution.

At a subsequent period the Grand Orient, by an overwhelming majority, gave the required vote.

The session was taken up with the discussion and amendment of the regulations (three hundred and thirty-three articles) auxiliary to and explanatory of the constitution, and the discussion and adoption of the financial budget.

On the 15th, the legislative assembly having been closed, the international banquet was held, at which there were present the representatives of thirty-two foreign Grand Lodges and Grand Orients, besides many visiting brethren having no official character.

After the customary honors had been rendered these brethren, and acknowledged in their behalf by one of their number, Bro. BATTAILLE, from the Committee on "Recompenses," made a report worthy in every sense of its distinguished author. After a glowing and brilliant tribute to the labors of Masonry in general, and a statement of its undying principles, he proceeded to name the several recipients of the medal of honor awarded by the Grand Orient to those who had deserved well of Masonry. Each award was accompanied by a statement of the act or acts which had led to its presentation. We have not space for the details, but we gladly reproduce the names, as follows :

1. Reunion Lodge at Toulon, for devoted and courageous service during the visitation of cholera in 1865.
2. Bro. MORVAN, for devotion to those stricken with cholera, at Lorient, in the same year.
3. Capt. MITCHEL, an English brother, for saving the lives of twenty French seamen, in Mexico, in 1862.
4. Bro. MONTDESIR, for eminent services during the earthquake at Point à Pitre, in 1843.
5. Bros. KERMOVAN, CANONVILLE, and ICERY, for eminent services to Masonry in Mauritius.

6. Bro. FREMIER, for having saved the Lodge archives from fire at Valparaiso, in 1862, at the risk of his own life.

7. Bro. COHEN, of Constantine, for long-continued services to humanity against fire, flood, and epidemic.

8. Bro. AUGUSTE LAFAGE, of Rochelle, for saving a man from drowning, in the night, at the imminent risk of his own life.

9. Bro. VUITTON, founder of a Lodge, and for seventeen consecutive years its Master, and during all that time a firm and consistent champion of Masonry.

10. Bro. BREMOND, for defending at his own risk, a Lodge mistakenly accused by the civil authorities.

11. Bro. LABBE, for courageous defense of the liberty of conscience.

We may remark that these awards are made periodically —once in ten years, we believe—and are held up by the Grand Orient as an inducement to all its disciples to illustrate by practice the teachings of our Craft.

We know of no reason why a similar institution might not furnish incentives to our brethren to merit its awards, and leave to their generations the medal of honor as a precious inheritance.

Then followed the banquet, at which about one thousand brethren sat down, but which, beyond the fact of so many nations being represented, presented nothing of note.

Among the memorials referred to the Grand Council for future action were two, praying the Grand Orient to use its influence to cause a change in the laws of foreign Grand Orient where the initiation of persons of Israelitish faith is forbidden.

During the year several distinguished members of this Grand Orient have been called to the silent land. Among them we note Bro. HEUILLANT, a Past Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. LENGLE, Deputy Grand Master, charged with the foreign correspondence of the Grand Orient.

To those unacquainted with the social condition of France, a correct estimate of the difficulties under which the Masonic Institution labors could hardly be arrived at. Opposed, harassed, and misrepresented at every turn by the representatives of a religious body drawing a part, at least, of its support from the State, and thus from the toil of Masons themselves, the infirmities of human nature may plead for them if occasionally they forget Masonic inspirations, and turn upon those who seek to rend them. Generally throughout France the religious institution alluded to refuses the rite of sepulture to Masons except upon condition of *ante-mortem* renunciation, and it forbids its temples to the brethren who would fain pay the last tribute of respect to the fraternal dead. In other cases, and when this obstacle is not interposed, they are obliged to obtain a permit from the civil authorities to surround the grave of a brother and bid adieu to his remains with the accustomed formalities of the Craft. The lack of educational facilities among the people, and the inviting field thus left to superstition and prejudice, add to the difficulties in the way of the Craft, and make the devotion of the brethren an act of true heroism. It is always easier to criticise the faults and shortcomings of others than it is to resist temptation when we ourselves are exposed to it; and we, secure in the popular esteem, enjoying our portion of popular freedom of thought and speech and action, and safe in this strong defense against the futile envy of fanaticism, may well find a large share of allowance for those who seek to maintain our cause and uphold its banners in a land where men have conscience-keepers, fed by the State to torture and misrepresent the acts and designs of their fellows. Our brethren in France, fortunately for themselves and for the institution in their charge, perceive that the strong point of their enemies is in the want of education among the masses, and they wisely seek to counteract it, not by a weak resort to vituperation and abuse, but by disseminating intelligence among the people, and thus preparing them to resist error and become

disciples of the truth. In due time they will succeed, and then Masonry will flourish, as it always flourishes where mind is untrammeled by superstition.

It is worthy of note that the Grand Orient publishes each year a full report of the debates at its annual assemblies; many of the speeches giving evidence of superior cultivation and profound appreciation of the essential doctrines of the Craft.

GRAND LODGE OF SAXONY.

This Grand Lodge transmits to us, with accustomed regularity, its Protocols Nos. 77, 78, 79, 80 and 81, respectively dated April 27, August 17, September 15, November 9, 1867, and February 15, 1868.

The enlightened and true Masonic spirit displayed by our sister of Saxony is in glaring contrast with the narrow-minded sectarian ideas pursued by some of her immediate neighbors. It is fully and truly illustrated in an occurrence which took place on the 17th of February, 1868, in the Lodge *Zu den drei Schwertern und Astraea zur grunenden Raute*, at Dresden. On that day a Mohammedan, by the name of *GATHA SADIK*, a merchant of Dresden, was made a Mason. True to the faith of his fathers, the candidate appeared in his national dress, and after answering the three questions usually propounded in a satisfactory manner, in the Arabic language, he was initiated.

We rejoice that our brethren of Saxony are so fully in accord with ourselves. For one of our own daughter Lodges has a similar instance on record. It seems that a Mohammedan, by the name of *MAHMOUN JUMAH*, First Lieutenant of a frigate of the Imaum of Muscat, lying at anchor in the harbor of New York, petitioned St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of New York, to be made a Mason. He was initiated on the 11th of June, 1839. It was impossible to procure a Koran for the occasion. The candidate, on being informed of this, inquired whether the book used by the Lodge contained the doctrine of a belief in a Supreme Being. Assured of this, he expressed himself satisfied, remarking that that was a good enough Koran for him.

The Suprême Conseil of Louisiana, at New Orleans, by letter of May 2d, expressed a desire to form closer relations with the Grand Lodge. It was, however, concluded to await further information before appointing a representative.

The manifest of the *Verein deutscher Freimaurer* was read and referred to a committee for investigation.

We are under renewed obligations to our representative near the Grand Lodge, R. W. Bro. *VON MENSCH*, who presented an excellent and elaborate abstract from our transactions for 1866 and 1867.

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge took place September 15, 1867. Fourteen Lodges were represented by their Masters. M. W. Bro. *WARNATZ* addressed the Grand Lodge as follows:

*"Worshipful and Beloved Brethren:—Saluting you in the name of the Grand Lodge, and extending to you the right hand of fellowship, we welcome you in the hall which has been placed at our disposal by the Lodges *Zu den drei Schwertern* and *Zum goldnen Apfel* for a great number of years. From our circle we miss many dear brethren, who have departed for the eternal East. Let us arise, as a tribute of respect to their honored memory. With much pleasure we salute the brethren, who have never before attended a Grand Lodge communication; and we rejoice to see in our midst to-day the Deputy Grand Master, as well as the W. Representatives of foreign Grand Lodges who are in friendly relations with us.*

"The Lodges have resolved that an annual communication of the Grand Lodge shall take place in future. May this result beneficially for us and Masonry generally; may it strengthen the confidence of the Lodges in their representatives and in the

officers of the Grand Lodge; and, above all, may it lead to the recognition of the principal aim of Masonry, to the cementation of brotherly love on the principle of humanity in the warm ways of a united family circle, where every one is willing to lend a portion of his strength for a great purpose, in which we all have the glorious aim of being recognized as true priests in the service of Wisdom and Love.

"It is known, my brethren, that new regulations are not always easily put in operation. They require practice, and must be adjusted as necessity demands. It would be no easy task to select subjects for discussion; and experience will have to teach whether an annual communication would be preferable to one to be held biennially or triennially.

"The Lodges represented here will have to decide what subjects shall be brought up for discussion. All propositions will have to be seconded, and if not sufficiently seconded, the regular order of business will be taken up. A motion in order to be brought up for discussion will have to be seconded by five Lodges. According to the statutes, the vote is taken by Lodges, and from this no deviation can be made to-day. The votes will be cast, where Lodges are represented, by their Masters; and if those are not present, by the next officer in succession; and when no deputies are present, by proxy. For a final disposition of all matters discussed, it will be ascertained by vote whether the subject is to be laid before the Lodges for consideration, and eventually for adoption in the Grand Lodge.

"But, my brethren, all subjects and all business would not make this a day, as it should be to us, of joy for brother Masons, if we have not brought with us the spirit of brotherly love and Masonic intelligence.

"Beloved brethren, we have for a long time past, after the sifting of some very questionable propositions, amended, in part, our Constitution, for which we may congratulate ourselves. Old and tested forms have been preserved to us, the great liberties of the Lodges have not been circumscribed by our Union; the tried form of the Grand Lodge, which only executes in a brotherly way the wishes of the Lodges, has been sustained. Let us preserve this happy moderation in future whenever necessary. It has contributed to our cementation, and heightened and secured for us the respect of the Masonic world and of foreign Grand Lodges even across the ocean. Let us, to-day, also show an unbroken chain, united by a common enthusiasm for Masonry, the glory of which will reflect upon the Lodges of our Union. Let us enthusiastically and cordially represent the Masonic family of our immediate fatherland. Keeping steadily in view our Masonic duties, let us approach the questions to be brought before us to-day. It is not a labor which will improve and instruct us in the ritual; it is, like all Grand Lodge labors, of a purely business nature. But it must be permeated by the spirit of Masonry, as it is the labor of Master Masons, whose Masonic intelligence shall illumine Lodge life, which sometimes is not very recreative. It is an assembly of brethren who are the light of Lodges. Therefore, let us courageously begin our labors!"

A proposition to abolish the right of jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge was unanimously voted down.

The Grand Orient of Italy at Florence, Grand Master FRAPOLI, has expressed the desire, in a letter of August 21, 1867, to enter into closer relations with the Grand Lodge of Saxony. The Grand Master remarked that it was to be feared that, with the present political and church movements in Italy, there might be danger that the Italians would not be able to steer clear of entanglements. A fundamental principle of Masonry would be violated thereby. It was also desirable that further information should be obtained as to the relations which the two Grand Lodges of Italy bore to each other. He also remarked that Grand Master FRAPOLI had replied to the questions in the second number of the Grand Lodge Bulletin, as follows:

"In regard to the questions which you propound, we will answer frankly.

1. "That the Lodges affiliated with the Grand Orient of Freemasons in Italy are strictly forbidden to occupy themselves with political debates; but that in our writings, we accord the same liberty of the press that is conceded to our citizens by the laws of the State.

2. "That inasmuch as we have not succeeded, after weeding out the irregular elements of Milan and Palermo, in forming one National Grand Lodge, with the desirable part thereof, we have to acknowledge the necessity of keeping our Lodges from contact with irregular brothers; the more so, as those few Lodges were not sufficiently careful in the selection of their material.

"The so-called Masonic Lodges, formed by speculators or impostors at Naples, we need not mention here.

"We shall be very happy to enter into a closer alliance with your brethren, as it seems to us to be the principal aim of Freemasonry to bring together all nations in brotherly relationship."

The Grand Lodge resolved to ask the Lodges for instructions in the matter. Protocol No. 81, however, informs us that the Constitution of the Grand Orient of Italy, at Florence, had been received, and the principles therein laid down being deemed satisfactory, the Grand Lodge entered into closer relationship with the Grand Orient of Italy by mutual representation.

Peace and harmony prevail with our sister of Saxony, and her daughter Lodges appear to be in a prosperoas condition.

GRAND LODGE ZUR SONNE, AT BAYREUTH.

This Grand Lodge met May 28, 1867. The Lodge *Zum Morgenstern* offered a resolution, "that the Grand Lodge should use its influence to induce the three Grand Lodges at Berlin, and also the Grand Lodges at Hanover and Darmstadt, to declare themselves in favor of the initiation of non-Christians." The presiding officer remarked, that however well intentioned this proposition might be, and however much in consonance with that of the Grand Lodge as well as his own, yet from existing circumstances the effort would prove futile. The Grand Lodge of Hamburg had formerly made numerous efforts in that direction, and lately the occasion of the introduction of a representative of the Grand Lodge *Zu den drei Welt-Kugeln*, in the Grand Lodge of New York, had called out a similar motion in the latter body. So far, the efforts made had only resulted in the admission of non-Christian brethren as visitors to the labors of the Prussian Lodges. He doubted, however, whether the unanimously adopted motion of this Grand Lodge would meet with any better success, and thought that it would be preferable to modify the motion, so as to recommend it warmly to the consideration of the sister Grand Lodges of Berlin.

The indefatigable Dr. LEUTBECHER, of the clandestine Lodge *Licht, Liebe, Leben*, is continually vibrating between the Grand Lodges *Zur Sonne* and *Zur Eintracht*, for recognition. No sooner does he receive his quietus in one, than he turns up in the other. In a letter of March 3, 1867, he again repeats the question, whether and under what conditions the Grand Lodge would be inclined to grant to his irregular association a charter as a regular Lodge. The matter was laid before all daughter Lodges, which declared that they were opposed to recognizing him and his associates as a lawful Lodge, inasmuch as the three principal officers of that clandestine body, who had been dishonorably discharged from a Lodge years ago, could have no authority to form a Lodge; that they were not under the tongue of good report, and their association did not rest upon the indispensably necessary moral foundation. The request was refused.

There remains, therefore, but one way open to the persevering applicant. Let him apply to the Grand Master of Hamburg.

A resolution was adopted by the Grand Lodge, that "every brother who has been initiated in a Lodge of Baden, must, if he change his residence to a place where another Lodge of that jurisdiction is located, affiliate with and pay his dues to that Lodge."

GRAND LODGE ZUR EINTRACHT.

We are not in possession of the protocols of this Grand Lodge. The only subject of interest that reaches us from other sources is in reference to an agreement which this Grand Lodge endeavored to enter into with the Grand Orient of France.

It seems that the Grand Lodge last year adopted a resolution expressing its desire to enter into an arrangement with the Grand Orient of France relative to the initiation of strangers in French Lodges. M. W. Bro. LEYKAM reported that he had addressed a letter to M. W. Bro. MELLINET, the Grand Master of France, on the 25th of May, 1867, at the same time transmitting to him a draft for the agreement. On the 20th of June he received an answer, in which Bro. MELLINET states that he was fully aware of the evils resulting from the initiation of strangers in various French Lodges, and that his views on the subject fully coincided with those of Bro. LEYKAM; but that to his regret the proposition could not be carried into effect in France, as he had no power to prohibit the initiation in French Lodges of persons from the Duchy of Hesse, or the city of Frankfort, without previous inquiry into their character at their place of residence. The French Lodges would consider such a prohibition an attack on their liberties, but that he would not fail to enjoin officially upon the Lodges the necessity of an inquiry, and he had no doubt a satisfactory result would be arrived at.

The Lodge *Ludwig zu den drei Sternen*, at Friedberg, has petitioned the Grand Lodge that she, like the newly instituted Lodges at Bingen, may be permitted to suspend Section 116 of the Constitution, which interdicts the initiation of non-Christians, and at the same time make a corresponding change in her Ritual. The Lodge places herself on the platform of the Ancient Regulations, and deems the abolition of the so-called Christian principle the more necessary, as the civil government has long ago recognized as equal people of all religious confessions.

MOTHER GRAND LODGE OF THE ECLECTIC UNION, FRANKFORT-ON-THE-MAIN.

This Grand Body was in session December 8, 1865, January 12, February 23, March 11, May 25, August 31, December 7, 1866, and February 22, March 18, May 31, 1867.

Bro. DANKER was re-elected Grand Master for 1866 and 1867. At the session of May 31st, Grand Master Bro. DANKER made the following remarks in regard to the publication of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge in Masonic journals.

"Of late the transactions of the Grand Lodge have found publicity through the Masonic press. However well-intentioned this may be, and although the Grand Lodge does not feel called upon to explain and correct officially publications of the kind, in order to remove erroneous impressions of existing relations and facts, she cannot omit declaring:

1. That the Constitution of an Eclectic Lodge in the Orient of Berlin, has nowise been the subject of discussion in this Grand Lodge.
2. That up to the present time no movement has been deemed necessary on the part of the Eclectic Union to secure its continued existence, as it has not been endangered, or in any way questioned.
3. That the private and confidential correspondence, which the then presiding

officer of the Grand Lodge of Hanover had requested, would not lead to an endangering of the eclectic principle, or to an eventual discontinuance of her activity; and that the publication of an isolated sentence leads to altogether erroneous conclusions."

For the revision of the Constitution, which is to take place in 1870, the Grand Lodge has taken the necessary steps, and the daughter Lodges are invited to forward any propositions for amendments they may desire. These are to be systematized and revised by a committee appointed for the purpose. The result of its labors is then to be laid before the Grand Lodge for consideration.

GRAND NATIONAL MOTHER LODGE ZU DEN DREI WELTKUGELN (THREE GLOBES), AT BERLIN.

The protocols of this Grand Lodge in our possession are dated March 22, May 2, June 24, September 5, November 2, 7 and 22, and December 5, 1867.

The meeting of March 22d was for the purpose of celebrating the birthday of the King of Prussia, the protector of the Order in his States. The regular quarterly assembly of May 2d was opened by the Grand Master, Bro. MESSERSCHMIDT, who expressed his gratification at meeting in Grand Lodge the Masters of Lodges located outside of Berlin. The Grand Lodge, on the 7th of March, had expressed the desire that the legal representatives of her daughter Lodges (Masters or Deputy Masters) when they had received the Fourth Degree, should be present at the session of the Grand Lodge in May of every year, in order to take part in the discussion and vote upon any proposed changes of the general laws. He remarked, that past experience taught them that correspondence with the Lodges and explanations were of little use, and that the representatives of the Lodges, chosen from the members of the Grand Lodge, were rarely in possession of sufficient information to speak understandingly of the affairs of the Lodges they represent. The Grand Lodge, therefore, had appointed a special Committee to draw up fresh instructions for the last mentioned representatives, and had caused them to be printed for the use of the members of the present session, as the instructions of February 9, 1801, were no longer applicable to present circumstances. It could not be doubted that these steps are properly appreciated by all daughter Lodges, and would be beneficial to the future prosperity of the Institution. The Grand Lodge, therefore, was rejoiced that in consequence of this invitation, several Masters and Deputy Masters of Lodges had taken their seats as representatives."

For the clearer understanding of the present mode of representation of the Lodges in the Grand Lodge, we will state that the latter is composed of the members of the four daughter Lodges at Berlin, who have attained a higher degree than that of Master Mason, and if elected as representatives by daughter Lodges outside of Berlin are obliged to accept the same. Any Lodge affiliating with the National Mother Lodge *Zu den drei Weltkugeln* must choose a representative from the members of the four Berlin daughter Lodges, proposed by the Grand Lodge. The Lodge, in all probability, has never seen its representative, and is unacquainted with his views. Nor is he acquainted with the affairs of the Lodge he represents, except by correspondence. To effect a change in this defective system of Lodge representation, the following proposition was offered at the session of the Grand Lodge, December 6, 1866 :

"To enable every daughter Lodge outside of Berlin to participate in the deliberations of proposed laws in Grand Lodge through their Master or Deputy Masters, it is recommended that all discussions and action upon amendments of the Constitution and Statutes are to be had at a session appointed for that purpose by the Grand Lodge. The last quarterly session of the Grand Lodge in the month of May would

be the most desirable for that purpose, as that season of the year would offer the least obstacle to the travel of brethren residing outside of Berlin. The May session of the Grand Lodge, when the election of Grand Officers takes place, would thereby acquire the desirable character of a principal annual session, and it might be attended by the Masters or Deputy Masters of the Lodges as their representatives, not only to consult on Masonic legislation and the election of officers, but also to discuss particular occurrences, make known the views of the Lodges, prepare questions of reform, create more intimate relations between the National Mother Lodge and her daughters, and also to lessen the correspondence between the Directory and the Lodges."

Nineteen Masters and Deputy Masters of Lodges attended the session of May 2d, and seventeen forwarded excuses for non-attendance. The revision of the law in regard to instruction for the representatives of Lodges, as reported by the committee was adopted; the report, however, does not state what the amended law now is.

The communication of June 24th was devoted to the celebration of St. John's Day.

The Grand Lodge has 60 active, and 659 honorary members. 104 active Lodges, with a membership of 11,800, are affiliated with her. The condition of the Lodges seems to be satisfactory to the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge, from its various charity funds, dispensed to the poor 4,186 thalers during 1866.

The *Supreme Conseil* of Louisiana, at New Orleans, communicated to the Grand Lodge, by letter dated May 2, 1867, that it had resolved to admit negroes, who had been initiated in lawful Lodges, as visitors to their labors, and that it was its desire to open more intimate relations with the Grand Lodge by the appointment of mutual representatives. The Grand Lodge approved the proposition.

Two of the daughter Lodges of the former Grand Lodge of Hanover have applied for affiliation with the Grand Lodge, and were accepted.

The Lodge *Ernst zum Compass*, at Gotha, has forwarded a number of propositions to amend the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, one of them as follows:

"The Lodge *Ernst zum Compass* is convinced that the requirement of a confession of faith is not in accordance with the spirit or history of Freemasonry. She desires that all daughter Lodges may take this question into serious consideration, and moves that the question may be brought up for discussion in the Grand Lodge." The Lodge "Georg," etc., at Arolsen, made similar propositions.

On the 22d of November the Grand Lodge celebrated its Seventieth Anniversary. M. W. Bro. VON MESSERSCHMIDT delivered an address, giving a condensed history of the Grand Lodge; but as we propose to give a full abstract from the history published by the Grand Lodge, of which a copy has been kindly transmitted to us, we will merely cite a few points from the address. He says: "At the beginning of the nineteenth century there were affiliated with the Grand Lodge 34 daughter Lodges, numbering 1,780 members, which now have increased to 105 active Lodges with a membership of 11,844. The present Grand Master has wielded the gavel since 1848 without intermission."

The address is accompanied by the reports of the different Grand Officers. The Grand Stewards' Lodge has charge of the economical department of the Grand Lodge. It is divided into four departments, which have charge of the following branches:

1. The care of the table and its utensils.
2. Supervision over the furniture.
3. Providing and distributing the dresses of the Order and of wine.
4. Providing light and playing-cards.

To meet expenses, the Treasurer of the Stewards' Lodge draws upon the funds of the Grand Lodge. But as the duties of the Stewards' Lodge became more and more extended, several of its duties, such as the charge of the Grand Lodge library, etc., were transferred to separate commissions. In 1807 its expenditures amounted to 828 thalers; in 1810, to 1,612 thalers; whilst the present estimate, made triennially, is 14,850 thalers.

A Grand Censorship is also one of the features of the Grand Lodge. This office formerly devolved upon the Grand Stewards' Lodge, but was separated from it in 1803.

Its duties are to settle disputes between brethren. An insult to the Grand Censors is deemed equivalent to one offered to the Grand Lodge itself. In 1865 their duties were still further defined, and they now are:

1. To see that the laws of the Grand Lodge are supported.
2. To keep watch over the moral conduct of the brethren.
3. To try Masonic offenders and pronounce judgment.

One of the Grand Censors is in duty bound to be present at the meetings of the Lodges. The Grand Censorship, however, has charge of the four Berlin Lodges only.

The report of the Grand Librarian is very interesting. The plan for establishing a library originated in 1773 by twenty-four Masons. In 1776 the Grand Lodge issued the first catalogue. The number of volumes then on the shelves was 756. In 1834 the library contained 4213; in 1855, 6,047; and at present, 7,266 volumes. The last acquisition is that of a part of the collection made by F. NICOLAI, comprising 1,640 works, in 1,150 volumes and 95 manuscripts, treating on Masonry, including Knights Templar, Rose Croix, Illuminates, Cabala, etc.

The Grand Almoner reports on the charities dispensed by the Grand Lodge. At present he disburses 2,000 thalers annually. Up to 1866, 155,953 thalers were distributed in charities.

Orphans are under the charge of another department. The aim is to give to orphans of deceased brethren a proper education. It was at first intended to establish an Orphan Asylum; but it was finally resolved to leave the children, who have lost their father, with the mother, and grant necessary assistance; or where both parents are dead to place them in some respectable private family.

From January 1857, to July 1, 1867, thirty-seven children were supported, during which time 9,034 thalers were expended. On the 1st July, 1867, the funds on hand of that department amounted to 6,996 thalers. At present there are twenty children of deceased brothers remaining with their mothers, and for their support 500 thalers are set aside. It is stated that this has proved to be the most efficient way of granting support.

There is also a Pension Fund, to aid students, from which 16,687 thalers were expended from 1814 to 1867. This branch of the fund is supported by collections in the four Berlin Lodges. Besides this, there are funds created by donations, etc., which have the same aim. During the seventy years of existence of the Grand Lodge, 32,000 thalers have been disbursed in that direction.

The total of the Grand Lodge funds amounts now to 270,707 thalers.

The Grand Lodge entered into a mutual representation with the Grand Lodge, *Dos Benedictinos*, at Rio Janeiro, the Grand Orient of Italy, at Florence, and the Grand Lodge of Denmark.

The manifest issued by the *Verein deutscher Freimaurer* of June 9, 1867, was received and placed on file.

With its protocols the Grand Lodge transmits to us a handsomely printed octavo volume of 364 pages, containing a complete and valuable history of that body from

its origin to the close of the year 1866. The first portion of this history was written by Bro. O'ETZEL, a former Grand Master, and printed in 1840, to commemorate the centenary existence of the Grand Lodge. In issuing the second edition, the Directory of the Grand Lodge revised the original of Bro. O'ETZEL, and brought the history down to the close of the year 1866. The history contains the origin of the "Three Globes of Berlin," and possesses some very interesting information on this point. We deem this a sufficient excuse for the extensive abstract we make therefrom.

The volume opens with the information that FREDERIC the Great, then heir apparent to the throne of Prussia, formed a Masonic Lodge in his palace at Rheinsberg, over which Bro. VON OBERG, Master of a Lodge at Hamburg, presided. On the return of Bro. VON OBERG to Hamburg in November, 1739, the Crown Prince assumed the government of the Lodge, and after ascending the throne removed it to his palace at Charlottenburg. This Lodge was without name, but is subsequently alluded to as *Loge Première*, also as *Loge au Roi notre Grand Maitre*.

In 1740 a small number of Masons applied to the King for permission to form a Lodge. They received a charter November 9th, of that year, by the name of *Aux trois Globes*, and adopted a Constitution modeled after that of the Grand Lodge of England. The latter acknowledged the Lodge at once, under the plea that the King, being naturally Grand Master in his own dominions, was fully authorized to constitute Lodges therein. The Lodge soon gained in extent by affiliation of the *Loge Première*, which ceased to exist in December, 1740, and also by initiations, so that in 1741 it already numbered ninety-six members. In 1744 the Lodge, by consent of the King, assumed the title of Grand Royal Mother Lodge, *Zu den drei Weltkugeln* (Three Globes), yet its presiding officer continued to be designated as Master only. Up to 1747 the Lodge, with the consent of the King, had granted charters to six daughter Lodges. To that period, and for some time thereafter, these charters were generally granted to a well-informed brother, who, after receiving it, proceeded to form a Lodge. It was but of rare occurrence that a number of brethren united in forming a Lodge, and to apply for a charter. The mother Lodge exercised an indifferent supervision over her daughters, and, in fact, she had little or no authority over them. The Ritual and Instruction, which are now written or printed for the use of the Lodges, were at that time communicated orally, and underwent many changes, particularly as they were translated from one language into another. With this they also received the imprint of the prevailing customs of the different nationalities through which they were transmitted. At first the mother Lodge essentially practiced the old English work. Up to 1747 the King seems to have been considered Grand Master, although he had ceased to take any interest in the Lodge. With pecuniary embarrassments dissensions arose, and in order to produce greater harmony it was decided to elect a Deputy Grand Master, which was done in that year. The Lodge, however, still continued to elect a Master annually. With better regulations, peace and prosperity returned and Lodges increased in numbers. Up to 1754 the membership of the mother Lodge was limited to forty-five, but in that year it was determined that all who were initiated therein should be entitled to membership without further ballot. A new Lodge, by the name of *La petite Concorde*, was formed in Berlin during that year, and received a charter from the mother Lodge, with the following peculiar restrictions: Its membership was confined to twelve; no visitor was to be admitted in it unless previously introduced in the mother Lodge; the Lodge was not permitted to initiate, pass, or raise any one, the mother Lodge reserving that privilege to herself; the new Lodge also agreed never to celebrate St. John's Day by herself. In 1755 dissensions arose in the new Lodge, which led to its withdrawal from the mother Lodge. At the request of the latter the civil authorities interdicted the meeting of the Lodge *Concorde*, but Field

Marshal Lord KEITH, Governor of Berlin at that time, and Deputy Grand Master of the North German Lodges under the Grand Lodge of England, permitted the resumption of her labors, and promised to procure for her a charter from the Grand Lodge of England.

The ancient law that a candidate for initiation "must be * * * hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered at the time of making, but no *woman*, no *eunuch*," was singularly interpreted by the mother Lodge. We are informed that, in December, 1755, LIUNI, a singer, was proposed in the mother Lodge. Doubts arose in the minds of the brethren as to the propriety of initiating him, he being a *eunuch*. By some it was considered a violation of the Ancient Constitution, which prohibited the initiation of a maimed man. The mother Lodge, therefore, resolved to ask the advice of the Lodge *Absalom* at Hamburg. The latter replied, "that *eunuchs* might be initiated without hesitation, if otherwise possessing the essential qualifications for making a good and upright Mason, and if free from vices." LIUNI was accepted.

The origin of the Grand Lodge *Royal York* of Prussia dates from the year 1760. During that year the mother Lodge granted a charter to the Lodge *Aux trois Colombes* (The Three Doves), from which subsequently sprang the before-named Grand Lodge. In 1761 this Lodge changed her name to *De l'Amitie aux trois Colombes*. In 1761 the Lodge *Concorde*, which had been chartered by the mother Lodge in 1747, granted a charter for the formation of a new Lodge against the earnest remonstrance of the mother Lodge. Unfriendly feelings resulted therefrom. A reconciliation, however, took place between the three Berlin Lodges during the same year. The Lodge *Concorde* agreed to return to the mother Lodge, and abstain in future from granting charters to new Lodges. The year 1761 also witnessed for the first time the election of a Grand Master in the mother Lodge.

In 1762 the higher degrees of the Clermont System were introduced in the mother Lodge and in two of her daughter Lodges. This was soon followed by the introduction of other high degrees. Dissensions resulted therefrom, and for the first time the term "System" was used to designate the various rites which had sprung into existence. The Lodge *L'Union*, chartered by the mother Lodge, worked according to the Scottish Rite. HUND, with his System of Strict Observance, became prominent in 1765, and the mother Lodge gave her adhesion to it through the influence of Bro. ZINNENDORF, who had been elected Master. He, however, could not agree with HUND as to the position he should occupy in the Order in Germany, and therefore sent a brother to Stockholm, in order to obtain the Ritual of the Swedish System. Retiring from the chair the year following his election, and claiming to be vested with power to charter Lodges, he instituted several and furnished them the new Masonic Ritual imported by him from Sweden, and on St. John's Day, 1770, instituted a new Lodge, which he called the Grand Lodge of Germany. The Grand Lodge of England recognized the latter in 1773.

The Lodge *De l'Amitie* separated from the mother Lodge in 1765, initiated the Duke of York, the oldest brother of King GEORGE I. of England, and through his influence obtained a charter from the Grand Lodge of England, on the 24th day of June, 1767, under the name of *La Royal York de l'Amitie*, No. 330, adopted the English Ritual, but also worked the higher degrees according to the French Rite. Almost simultaneously with this a Bro. KOPPEN severed his connection with the mother Grand Lodge and instituted the Order of the *African Builders*. He found a number of adherents, but finally disappeared from view, after a precarious existence of twenty years.

Dissensions naturally followed the introduction of these various Rites. Brethren of one system were interdicted from holding communication with those of other systems. Particular signs were introduced in the Lodges, and these clashings were

only harmonized when Bro. WALLNER was installed Grand Master of the united Lodges, practicing the Scottish Rite. Kind feelings took the place of old animosities, and when Prince FREDERIC AUGUST of Brunswick was installed National Grand Master of the Prussian States, the mother Lodge assumed the title of Grand National Mother Lodge of the Prussian States. Amicable relations were also restored with the Lodge Royal York.

In 1783 the National Mother Lodge cut herself loose from the Rite of Strict Observance, declared herself independent, and in 1797 established a Directory for the conduct of her business and that of her daughter Lodges. The government also bestowed upon her the powers and privileges of a corporation.

New difficulties, however, loomed up, by the withdrawal from Berlin of the National Grand Master Duke FREDERIC AUGUSTUS, and the change in the Masonic views of Bro. WALLNER in 1797. A conference was called of the four daughter Lodges at Berlin, and it was concluded to reinstitute a Directory which should govern in the name of the mother Lodge. The same Directory also constituted the Orient, whose duty it also is to keep the system free from all foreign admixtures. All resolutions adopted by the mother Lodge as well as the election of Masters by the daughter Lodges, had to be approved by this Directory. Both the Grand Master and his Deputy were shorn of all their power. The Directory acts in the name and place of the mother Lodge, but has to receive the assent of the mother Lodge to anything for which the latter may become liable. On the other hand, the Directory became responsible to the State for all resolutions adopted by the National Mother Lodge, and it was therefore necessary that all regulations of the National Mother Lodge should receive the approval of the Directory.

The Lodge Royal York divided herself into four Lodges, in 1798, and with other daughter Lodges which she had previously chartered, formed a Grand Lodge under the name of Grand Lodge of Freemasons *Royal York zur Freundschaft*. The National Grand Lodge of Germany, at Berlin (Swedish system), violently opposed the new Grand Lodge, but without success. On the 20th October, 1798, the King issued an edict forbidding all secret societies, exempting therefrom, however, the then existing three Grand Lodges of Berlin, viz., the National Mother Grand Lodge *Zu den drei Weltkugeln*, the Grand Lodge of Germany, and that of Royal York, with their daughter Lodges. Other Lodges were prohibited by this edict.

In 1799 the Grand Master and Deputy of the Three Globes resigned their offices, and the mother Lodge concluded not to elect a Grand Master for the present. The Master of the mother Lodge for the time being was recognized as temporary Grand Master.

In 1807, a convention was agreed upon between the three Berlin Grand Lodges, according to which a monthly conference, composed of four members from each Grand Lodge, was held, whose duty it was to consult on subjects of common interest to German Freemasonry. This, however, was abolished in 1823, in consequence of dissensions between the Grand Lodge of the Swedish System and Royal York. In 1839, a Grand Masters' Union, which still exists, was established, having for its object a consultation on common Masonic subjects, and the cementing of friendly relations between the Lodges of the "Fatherland."

In 1833, changes in the Ritual were proposed, when it was laid down as a leading principle that everything that rested upon an historical foundation, or had become sacred by time and dear to the brethren by usage, should be preserved; changes only should be made which the spiritual necessities of an advanced age seemed to require.

In 1840, the present King, then Crown Prince of Prussia, was initiated into Masonry, in the presence of the three Grand Lodges of Berlin, according to the Swedish System, and immediately assumed the Protectorate over all the Lodges in

Prussia. When he ascended the throne, the Protectorate devolved upon his son, the Crown Prince, who was initiated in 1853. Nothing of general interest seems to have transpired to 1866, with which year the history closes.

In the course of this history a subject is discussed on which, inasmuch as it was at one time the cause of a remonstrance on the part of our Grand Lodge with those of Berlin, we cannot forbear to make a few remarks, particularly as a principle of vital importance to the institution is involved therein. In 1844 the three Grand Lodges of Berlin made the following declaration :

“The three Grand Lodges have the same aim as regards the Order; they labor for the ennobling of their members and the happiness of mankind, according to the principles of Christianity, but without any tendency to politics or sectional confession,” etc.

The Grand Lodge of the Three Globes states that her Statutes of 1799 are based upon the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, of 1723, and, in consequence, has engrafted the following among her laws :

“CHAP. IV., SEC. 1.—A Freemason must be an upright and candid professor of the Christian religion.”

An appendix to the Statutes adopted in 1808 further prescribes :

“SEC. 20.—A Jew can not be initiated, affiliated, or be admitted a visitor.”

In 1841, however, this section was stricken out, in consequence of a remonstrance by a Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Holland, one of whose members, being an Israelite, was refused admission as visitor to a Berlin Lodge.

But Section 166 of the same Revised Statutes, adopted during that year, contains the following :

“SEC. 166.—Those persons only can be proposed for initiation in Freemasonry who

“1. Profess Christianity, without regard to particular creed,” etc.

“SEC. 201.—Every brother who desires to be affiliated with any Lodge under our jurisdiction must be a professor of Christianity.”

A commission for the revision of the Statutes of the Three Globes declared, in 1849, “that the initiation in and affiliation with the daughter Lodges of the National Mother Lodge of non-Christians was an impossibility.” This declaration was unanimously adopted by the mother Lodge. The Commission, however, declared “that all brethren who prove themselves members of regularly constituted Masonic Lodges, recognized by the Berlin Grand Lodges, can be admitted as visitors, as it seems a contradiction to recognize a Lodge, and yet refuse its members admission.”

To justify its requirements, a profession of Christianity in a candidate, or for affiliation, the Grand Lodge cites the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, of the year 1723, as follows :

Section 1 of that instrument says : “But though in ancient times Masons were charged in every country to be of the religion of that country or nation, whatever it was, yet it is now thought more expedient only to obligate them to that religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves—that is, to be good men and true * * * by whatever denominations or persuasions they may be distinguished,” etc. -

Which the mother Grand Lodge explains : “*By ‘religion in which all men agree’ is to be understood the Christian religion solely.*”

To support its views, the Grand Lodge refers to VI., 3 (should be 2), of the Ancient Charges, where it speaks of the “behavior” of the brethren after the Lodge in the following language : “Therefore no private piques or quarrels must be brought within the door of the Lodge, far less any quarrels about religion, or nations, or State policy, we being only, as Masons, of the Catholic religion above

mentioned; we are also of all nations, tongues, kindreds, and languages, and are resolved against all politics as what never yet conduced to the welfare of the Lodge, nor never will. This charge has been always strictly enjoined and observed; but especially ever since the Reformation in Britain, or the dissent and secession of these nations from the communion of Rome."

"This," the Grand Lodge continues, "alludes directly to the religion mentioned (Section 1) in the Ancient Charges, where it is designated as 'Catholic,' and points to the Church entanglements during the English Reformation. This, therefore teaches us that the term of 'Catholic religion' does not mean the Roman Catholic Church, but those doctrines only which all professors of Christianity possess in common. * * * It can not be at all doubted that these laws were made for Christians only, as they were drawn up by Bro. ANDERSON, a clergyman of the Church of England, and approved by Bro. DESAGULIER, a clergyman of the Reformed Church, and Deputy Grand Master," etc. * * * "For these reasons," the mother Grand Lodge continues, "it is to be assumed that the initiation in Freemasonry was conditioned upon a profession of Christianity, according to the Constitution of 1723. The Masonic Institution, according to the Constitution, is to be made a society for the whole human family, resting upon a Christian basis—the supporter and transplanter of original Christianity, free from all priesthood. On the 15th November, 1723, the following important resolution was adopted (General Regulation XXXIX.): 'Every annual Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make new regulations, or alter these, for the real benefit of this ancient Fraternity, provided always, that the old landmarks be carefully preserved,' etc. This power was exercised by the Grand Lodge of England, in 1738, when the Constitution was amended. The section on religion, as amended, read as follows: 'A Mason is obliged, by his tenure, to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understands the art, he will never be a stupid atheist nor irreligious libertine. He, of all men, should best understand that God seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh at the outward appearance, but God looketh to the heart. A Mason is, therefore, particularly bound never to act against the dictates of his conscience. Let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may, he is not excluded from the order provided he believe in the glorious Architect of heaven and earth, and practice the sacred duties of morality. Masons unite with the virtuous of every persuasion in the firm and pleasing bond of fraternal love; they are taught to view the errors of mankind with compassion, and to strive, by the purity of their own conduct, to demonstrate the superior excellence of the faith they may possess. Thus Masonry is the centre of union between good men and true, and the happy means of conciliating friendship among those who must otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance.'"

The constitution of 1738 was revised by its author, ANDERSON. This section, however, remained intact in the constitution of the Grand Lodge of England in its several editions of 1815, 1827, 1841 and 1855.

The Grand Lodges of Prussia themselves seem to be fully aware that this forced construction placed by them upon that part of the Ancient Charges is with the intent of making them conform to the principles they have adopted. The address delivered by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge Royal York, at Berlin, on St. John's Day, 1867, which lies before us, expresses it very clearly. He says therein: "Suffice it to state that the Grand Lodge has labored faithfully and effectively according to the doctrines transmitted to her by her English mother. *If, in some respects, she has traveled paths diverging from her—if, for instance, she has planted herself upon a Christian platform*—it is not the result of accident or arbitrariness, but it is just as indigenous to our country as the enlarged tendencies in England are to that country. In our fatherland the religious differences have never term-

inated in bloody persecutions or in splits of sectarianism," etc. The last sentence certainly shows a strange oversight on the part of the M. W. brother. Has he forgotten that it took *thirty* long bloody years before the Catholic Church was forced to tolerate the Protestant Church? It was not by their free will that religious liberty was allowed. The whole continent was strewn with slain; and they only yielded the point when they could fight no longer. Their hate still remained; the sword was only sheathed for the time, to be drawn again when opportunity offered.

But the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes also asserts that the principle of Christian faith has been sanctioned, in its original form, by nearly all Grand Lodges of Europe and North America.

We fail to discover that the principle of Christianity is at all alluded to in the last cited section, and furthermore assert that it is entirely ignored by a very overwhelming majority of the Grand Lodges of the world. In Germany, the constitutions of the Grand Lodges of Saxony, *Zur Sonne*, at Baireuth, the Eclectic Union of Frankfort-on-the-Main and Hamburg, have for their foundation the constitution of the Grand Lodge of England of 1723. In direct contradiction with it are the constitutions of the three Grand Lodges of Prussia at Berlin, (Royal York, Three Globes, and the Grand Lodge of Germany). The Grand Lodge *Zur Eintracht*, at Darmstadt, presents a divided house, four of her daughter Lodges adhering strictly to the constitution of 1723, whilst the laws of the other four do not rest upon that basis. These, with the Grand Lodges of Sweden and Denmark, have engraven upon it the principle of a profession of Christianity. The Grand Lodges of the rest of the world adhere strictly to the ancient law, and rest upon the principle of universality.

In the constitution of 1723 the principle of universality of the institution was laid down as the foundation stone. It was adopted by the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1730, by that of Scotland in 1761, by Holland in 1761, by France in 1771, by Hamburg in 1801. Even the more modern Grand Lodges of Italy and South America, sprung from France, are based upon the principle of freedom in religious belief, as laid down in the ancient charges. It is engraven on the constitutions of all the Grand Lodges of the world, and only Sweden and Denmark and a part of Germany adopt the exclusive principles. Of the seventy-five Grand Lodges of the world, six only recognize the so-called Christian principle. The great majority of the eight thousand Lodges of the world countenance the initiation of non-christians, whilst on the other hand, the puny minority of only two hundred and twenty-three Lodges cultivate the so-called Christian principle. Again and again war has been made upon it, and it has been discussed in all its bearings. Theoretically, it has been overpowered long since; in practice it has been retained, however, with a zeal worthy of a better cause. The day is not far distant, when this unmasonic and illiberal idea will be dispelled by the sun of enlightenment. The boundaries of exclusiveness are becoming more circumscribed day by day. The question has been already virtually decided by an immense majority vote.

The Grand Lodge to the Three Globes explains that the term "Catholic Religion" means not the Church of Rome, but Christianity generally. All Lodges of the world originally sprung from those of England, Ireland, and Scotland; they agree in their fundamental principles, in the peculiarities and essentials of Masonry, in the principle of universality, and interpret the word *catholic*, what it was intended to convey, "*universality, general.*" If the Masonic institution is founded for the purposes of Christianity, then its necessity is more than problematical. It would be altogether unnecessary and superfluous.

Originally, there was no Masonry in Germany but what was transplanted by the Grand Lodge of England. When Masonry in Germany began to worship strange gods, the Lodges ignored and abandoned the ancient landmarks and usages.

Many of them have returned to the ancient faith. But the three Prussian Grand Lodges and those of Sweden and Denmark still worship around the strange altar. These bodies, in reality, exclude themselves from the rest of the Masonic family, although they have much in common with them in regard to principles, symbols, forms, and constitution ; but in this one essential they certainly differ from the rest. The Masonic institution, in ideal elevation, stands far above all contingencies of human life, far above all severing barriers, far above all other societies. The Prussian, Swedish, and Danish Lodges lack these essentials. They are a union of professing Christians, a community professing a certain faith. Masonry esteems man according to his moral worth ; they take in consideration accidental, external circumstances. Masonry selects the pure man, as he came from the hands of his Creator ; the Prussian Lodges, as accident of birth or society has formed him, the Christian. The structure of true Freemasonry is perfect and consistent in itself, that of Prussian Masonry is contradictory and imperfect. In Prussian Lodges the character of candidates of the Jewish faith is investigated, their names are placed on the lists of candidates, and occasionally they are very warmly recommended for *initiation* to Lodges outside of Prussia, whilst they themselves refuse to bring them to Masonic light. They admit them as visitors, yet make a distinction between those whom they treat as brethren, and those whom they recognize as such in name only. They do not concede to them the right of initiation and affiliation in their Lodges, and refuse to be just and practice tolerance.

But ancient prejudices must give way before education and the enlightenment of the age. The Prussian Government now admits its Jewish subjects to seats in its Parliament and in liberality and enlightenment, in freedom from prejudices, Masons should lead and not follow. They should not be Sons of Light in name merely. We look, at no distant day, for a change in the views of our sister Grand Lodges of Prussia. Already the signs prognosticating this change appear here and there on the horizon. We will only refer to the circular letter issued on St. John's Day, 1867, by the Lodge *Ernst Zum Compass*, at Gotha, a daughter Lodge of the Three Globes. Gladly would we transfer the whole of it to our pages, but our limits forbid. Let the following points, offered as amendments to the constitution, therefore suffice to show the sentiments of that enlightened Prussian Lodge.

1. The right of an unrestricted vote by the Lodge in the Grand Lodge is asked for.

3. The requirement of a confession of faith as a condition for the reception of a candidate is not in accordance with the principles of Masonry, does not rest upon an historical foundation, and should therefore be abolished.

We do not at all doubt that the propositions of this Lodge will be looked up n by many, and perhaps by a majority, of the Prussian Lodges as having a de-christianizing tendency, whilst those of liberal and cosmopolitan views will regard them as a sign of the revival of pure Masonry, as transmitted to us all by our common mother, the Grand Lodge of England. The propositions of the Lodge at Gotha are unquestionably of vital importance to Masonry in Prussia. A profession of religion ; the excessive control of the Prussian Grand Lodges over their daughter Lodges, extending itself heretofore even to the approval of the officers elected by the Lodges ; no voice or vote in legislation or the election of Grand Lodge officers except through representatives appointed from the Berlin Lodges by the Grand Master ; in fact, a complete control in every respect, falls with strange effect upon the ears of an American Mason. The sun of enlightenment is already piercing the clouds that overhung the sky of Prussian Masonry. The indications are encouraging. We have it, although not from official sources, that the Grand Lodge has it under serious contemplation to repeal that part of its constitution which requires a profession of Christianity of the candidate. Let them remember the memorable words

on religious belief of their King, FREDERIC the Great, whose memory is deeply venerated by every Prussian, and who is the father of Masonry in that country: "Let every one be happy after his own fashion." In the spirit of Masonic kindness, we can only wish our Prussian brethren, God-speed.

GRAND LODGE OF PRUSSIA, ROYAL YORK ZUR FREUNDSCHAFT, BERLIN.

This Grand Lodge held its quarterly meetings January 21 and March 4, September 2 and December 2, 1867.

In regard to the recognition of the Grand Orient of Belgium, the Grand Lodge declared itself in accord with the other two Grand Lodges of Berlin, to the effect that "if the Grand Orient would see fit to readopt the clause in her laws prohibiting the discussion of religious and political questions in the Lodges, the Grand Lodge would be willing to resume brotherly intercourse with it, and admit the members of that Orient as visitors to her daughter Lodges."

The "Manifest to the Grand Lodges of the world" issued by the *Verein deutscher Freimaurer*, and the fundamental laws adopted by it, were placed on file.

The exchange of representatives asked for by the Suprême Conseil of Louisiana, at New Orleans, was disposed of by a motion to ascertain from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, with which a mutual representation already exists, what relations the Suprême Conseil occupies to the latter.

GRAND LODGE OF HANOVER.

After an active existence of forty years the Grand Lodge of Hanover had ceased to exist. It held its last session on the 28th of March, 1868.

The war of 1866 between Austria and Prussia resulted in the annexation of the kingdom of Hanover to Prussia, and in its train followed the question of the future existence of the Grand Lodge. According to an edict issued by a former King of Prussia, October 20, 1798, three Grand Lodges only are permitted to exist in his dominions. It was supposed by many, however, that, inasmuch as Hanover possessed an independent Grand Lodge before its annexation to Prussia, its quiet continuance would be permitted, particularly as the edict before alluded to seemed to have been modified in 1848, by the enactment of a law permitting Prussian subjects to assemble without arms in closed rooms and form societies not prohibited by law. This anticipation was not realized. The Grand Lodge of Hanover was swept away by a cabinet order of February 17, 1867, whether justly or otherwise, or how much the dissensions which sprung up in the Grand Lodge itself contributed to this deplorable result, we will not undertake to discuss.

GRAND LODGE OF HAMBURG.

At the session of May 4, 1867, the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, only six daughter Lodges outside of Hamburg were represented by their Masters. The resolution adopted August 5, 1865 (see Transactions, New York, 1866, p. 186) was repealed, against which, Franklin Lodge, No. 2, of New York, entered a protest. The following amendment to Section 130 of the constitution was adopted by a vote of seventy to nine :

"The meeting in May is the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, to which time, all important discussions and the enactment of laws affecting the general interest of Masonry or of the Grand Lodge Union, are to be deferred, if otherwise not

incompatible with the interest of Masonry. This meeting is to be attended, as far as possible, by all daughter Lodges through their Masters, Deputy Masters, one of the Wardens, or by one or more Master Masons, not exceeding three, who are members of the Lodge and appointed for that purpose. Daughter Lodges, which, by too great a distance, or for other reasons, are prevented from participating in the annual meeting by direct deputies, may forward their votes in writing, on subjects submitted to them, at least four weeks previous to it, or they may be represented by their (local) representatives, or by any brother Master Mason. The latter two, however, in order to participate in the deliberations, must be furnished with written instructions, or be authorized for the occasion by a written proxy."

At the quarterly communication, August 17, 1867, a letter dated May 2, 1867, addressed to the Grand Lodge by the *Suprême Conseil* of Louisiana, at New Orleans, was laid before the Grand Lodge, asking for recognition and mutual representation. The letter, similar to the one addressed to the Grand Lodge of Saxony, stated that the *Suprême Conseil* had adopted a resolution to admit as visitors to her daughter Lodges brethren of lawful Lodges, without reference to race and color. A declaration was inclosed, dated May 1, 1867, in which a Bro. DUNN, Grand Master, and BANK, Deputy Grand Master, of the (colored) Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and twenty-six other (colored) brethren of various Lodges, certify that they were invited by Bro. CHASSAGNAC, Grand Master of the *Suprême Conseil*, and Master of the Lodge *La Liberté*, No. 19, to visit that Lodge, and that they had been received in a most brotherly manner. Dr. BUEK remarked that this was very gratifying, inasmuch as it was the first instance of a recognition of colored Lodges and brethren by a Masonic authority in North America. It therefore should incline them favorably toward that Grand Body. Nevertheless, he felt some hesitation in recommending a closer alliance. The proposition did not come from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which is recognized by all American Grand Lodges, but from a body of which we have no knowledge; that they were not informed whether it and its daughter Lodges are universally acknowledged, particularly as there existed in North America several *Suprême Conseils*, which did not consider each other legitimate. Our Grand Lodge had reason to be cautious in her conduct toward American Lodges. He therefore recommends that the Grand Lodge should express its regret at being compelled to decline the alliance, which was assented to.

Heretofore the conduct of the Grand Master of Hamburg has not been remarkable for caution, if he thought his ambitious schemes could be advanced thereby. The colonization of his two clandestine Lodges in New York is evidence thereof. With age, perhaps, his bump of caution may become more fully developed. We can wish him no greater enjoyment than to meet his twenty-eight above-mentioned "colored brethren" in a close room, during the summer solstice in New Orleans. The worthy Doctor of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg declines for the present to enter into any relationship with the *Suprême Conseil* of Louisiana, for fear that that body may not be universally recognized by the North American Grand Lodges. He, however, has not the least compunction in associating with the clandestine negro Lodges of North America, not one of which was ever recognized by any regular Lodge of white Masons in these United States. "Consistency, thou art a jewel," but thy name is not BUEK. We have always insisted, and it now becomes more apparent day by day, that it was neither philanthropy nor principle that induced him to take the clandestine negro Masons under his protecting wing. There are other reasons for the course pursued by him. If we had recognized the two clandestine bodies he has planted in our midst, if we were to throw open the territory we Masonically occupy as a Grand Lodge to his machinations and colonization schemes, the benign smile of the M. W. Doctor would never have gladdened the heart of the clandestine negro Mason.

In Protocol No. 118, of May 3, 1867, of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, we find the following report.

Doctor BARTHELMESS, of Brooklyn, who attended that Grand Lodge session, made the following remarks :

“ Two reasons impelled him to speak :

“ 1. He desired to express his sincere thanks to the members of the Grand Lodge, who had shown him attentions beyond his expectations.

“ 2. To meet the prejudices which had occasionally manifested themselves in the Masonic press, as well as in private, in regard to the position of Pythagoras Lodge, No. 1, and Franklin Lodge, No. 2, in America, and also in Europe. Especially was he informed by Bro. ROSE, Past Master of Pythagoras Lodge, that he had found very erroneous impressions prevailing, particularly in Dresden. It had been reported there that it was merely stubbornness on the part of Pythagoras Lodge, that she had not reaffiliated with the Grand Lodge of New York. The idea also prevailed in some places that the position of Pythagoras Lodge was very disagreeable, onerous, and retarding her prosperity. He, however, could give the assurance that the Lodge was perfectly happy and contented with the position she occupied, and for that reason had no desire to take the step indicated. The enmity which had manifested itself against her was based only upon the opinion of a portion of the Masonic press hardly to be noticed, or upon the attacks of a few members of the Masonic Fraternity in America. The majority of the brethren, as well as a portion of the officers of the Grand Lodge there, were, although not strictly Masonically, yet in personal friendly accord with the members of Pythagoras Lodge. As far as it was possible for him to predict the future, Pythagoras Lodge would never return to the Grand Lodge of New York ; that was a matter of conviction with her members, of which they were now even more firmly convinced than they were sixteen years ago. It can no longer be deemed stubbornness on the part of the Grand Master, or a blind persistency in the course taken. If a change should ever be deemed necessary, that change will be made in another direction than by an affiliation with the Grand Lodge of New York.

“ The presiding officer returned his thanks to Bro. BARTHELMESS for the joyful communication, which only confirmed the favorable view which he had for a long time entertained of the relations in New York. He could assure the beloved Lodges, Pythagoras, No. 1, and Franklin, No. 2, that the Grand Lodge of Hamburg would never abandon her two beloved daughters in New York, provided they themselves did not desire to withdraw from her. He begged Bro. BARTHELMESS, on his return, to make this assurance of the Hamburg Grand Lodge known to the beloved brethren in Brooklyn and New York.”

We owe it to the indefatigable exertions of our faithful and esteemed representative of Dresden, R. W. Bro. VON MENSCH, that the machinations of the Hamburg Grand Master and his consort on this side of the ocean are so well understood by the Grand Lodges of Germany ; and we again express to him our grateful acknowledgements for his labors.

The addresses were gotten up, as Dr. BARTHELMESS himself states, for the purpose of changing the settled opinions of all Grand Lodges in the United States, and of an overwhelming majority of those of Europe. The Masonically demagogic tendencies and efforts of the supervisor of the New York daughters of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and of the presiding officer of the latter body, are too well understood on both sides of the Atlantic, and it will take something more than the uttering of the word “ presto ” by Dr. BARTHELMESS to produce a change. His assurances will be taken for what they worth, and that is little indeed.

The rabid reformers and uprooters of established and universally acknowledged laws will, however, unhesitatingly approve them. Dr. BARTHELMESS’ remarks may

leave the impression that the Grand Lodge of New York had extended an invitation to him and his Lodges to return to the fold of the Grand Lodge of New York, which certainly is not a fact. He expresses himself perfectly satisfied with the position they occupy, and the Grand Lodge of New York has no reason to be less contented with her own. Dr. BARTHELMESS' assurance that the course pursued by the Grand Master of Hamburg was only condemned by a very small portion of American Masons is singularly void of truth; Hamburg Masons are not recognized by any of the *legal* Grand Lodges in this country. He also seems to lay great stress upon the fact, that in common life Hamburg Masons hold friendly intercourse with American Masons. It would be strange were it otherwise. Masonically, Hamburg Masons are dead to us; outside of Masonry our laws permit an interchange of courtesies and civilities. Dr. BARTHELMESS also asserts that, as far as his power of prophecy enables him to look into the future, in case of a separation from Hamburg by her two New York Lodges, they will not rejoin the Grand Lodge of New York. The meaning of that assurance has since become more apparent. For a resolution has been adopted by the so-called *Verein deutsch-amerikanischer Freimaurer* (Society of German-American Freemasons), which has its seat in New York, to the following effect: "The officers of the society are directed to prepare a manifest inviting all *German* Lodges and all *German* brethren to attend a Masonic Congress by deputies, for the purpose of consulting on the *formation of an independent Lodge Union for the United States*," which, if successful, will be guided and governed by Dr. BARTHELMESS. It remains to be seen whether the German Masons of America are willing to assume an isolated position in this country. We have too much faith in the good sound sense of the great majority of our German brethren, to believe that they are willing to do the bidding of the rabid reformers, or that they can be cajoled to forward the designs of a few ambitious leaders.

In the Protocol No. 122, of November 16, 1867, Dr. BUEK acknowledges the receipt of the Transactions of the Grand Lodge of Texas with the remark, "that this brotherly advance made by that Grand Lodge deserves to be the more gratefully acknowledged by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, as it was unexpected on the part of a Grand Lodge in the United States." He was satisfied that the Grand Lodge would consent, in acknowledgment of this act of friendship, to forward, with its thanks, to the beloved sister at Houston, the list of the Grand Lodge.

We are satisfied that the Grand Lodge of Texas will, sooner or later, discover the iron hand, at present so carefully concealed in a velvet glove.

In the same Protocol Dr. BUEK also acknowledges the receipt, through Dr. BARTHELMESS, of several numbers of the "Reform" organ of the *Verein deutsch-amerikanischer Freimaurer*, from which he is rejoiced to learn that among the seven newly joined members some belonged to the Grand Lodge of New York, and also a Bro. RAY, the Master of a colored Lodge at Brooklyn. We are only surprised that the *Triangle*, heretofore the organ of Dr. BUEK, has been so very unceremoniously discarded.

The same Protocol also acknowledges the receipt of a letter from Pythagoras Lodge, No. 1, Brooklyn, in which it is stated that she has unanimously approved the fundamental laws adopted by the *Verein deutscher Freimaurer*, at Worms, June 8 and 9, 1867, and that the Lodge would be guided by them in its future actions. They therefore propose that the Grand Lodge of Hamburg should also express herself in favor of the same fundamental laws.

It is certain, however, that both the happy New York daughters of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg do not look upon these fundamental laws of the Worms' convention through the same spectacles, as appears from the following abstract, which we do not find mentioned in the Hamburg protocol.

Franklin Lodge, No 2, of New York, adopted the following resolutions at her meeting of October 21, 1867 :

“ In consideration of the fundamental Masonic law projected at the Masonic congress of June 8 and 9, 1867, at Worms, and the manifest addressed to all Grand Lodges of the world, which accompanied it ;

“ In consideration that we also are called upon to indorse the said manifestation ;

“ In consideration that the present prevailing rhetorical-declamatory tendency of the Masonic institution is one of the chief causes of its decay, and of its limited influence on the practical life of the present time ;

“ In just surprise that the *Verein deutscher Maurer*, in contradiction to its antecedents and its heretofore pursued course, in order to carry out its intended reforms, has addressed itself to Masonic institutions, the absolute abolition of which must be the first effective and real problem of honest reform efforts ;

“ With regret that by means of that manifest the Masonic world of Germany is to be made tributary to the prevailing deceptive syllogism, to effect a unity at the expense of liberty, by a centralization alike objectionable in principle and in experience ;

“ In view of the frequently, clearly, and definitely expressed opinions of our Lodge in regard to necessary and indispensable reforms in Masonry ;

“ With particular reference to Sections 4, 5, 10, 15 and 16 of the mentioned plan, which are diametrically opposed to the fundamental idea of liberty and sovereignty of Lodges ;

“ With the conviction that the course taken by the *Verein deutscher Maurer*, at Worms, will not lead to agreeable, practical reform results ;

“ The Lodge Franklin, No. 2, resumes the order of business.”

There certainly exists, to say the least, a great inconsistency between the profession and practice of Franklin Lodge. Considering as she does the rhetorical-declamatory tendency of Masonry one of the chief causes of its decay, and its limited influence on practical life, it would be difficult to produce a set of resolutions of a higher bombastic order than those above quoted. Considering as she does, the abolition of Grand Lodges the first and greatest aim of the reformers, she adheres with peculiar tenacity to her connection with the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, disregarding even the gentle hints so frequently thrown out of late by Dr. BUEK that his daughters of New York might depart in peace as soon as they pleased.

The protocol of Hamburg contains the letter of Pythagoras Lodge approving the fundamental laws and manifest of the *Verein deutscher Maurer*. Why does it omit this “ hifalutin ” production of Franklin Lodge, disapproving the same? Perhaps the diversity of views in the happy New York family of the M. W. Doctor of Hamburg is the cause of his wish for a quiet and peaceable separation.

We must confess that we have just the slightest curiosity to learn how the Grand Master of Hamburg will relish being “ abolished ” by his daughter Lodge.

The Grand Lodge has appointed a representative near the Grand Orient of Italy, at Florence.

VEREIN DEUTSCHER FREIMAURER (SOCIETY OF GERMAN FREEMASONS) OF GERMANY.

We have received the report of the *Verein* for the year 1867. The political occurrences in Germany prevented the meeting of the Society in 1866. On the 8th and 9th of June, 1867, it held a session at Worms, adopted what they call fundamental laws, and at the close of the session issued the following :

"MANIFEST TO ALL THE GRAND LODGES OF THE WORLD.

"Most Worshipful and Beloved Brethren:—If Freemasonry, to which we are all attached with enthusiasm and love, has not to its full extent succeeded in fulfilling its exalted mission to ennoble and conciliate mankind, and to make it happier, and crown with success all that is good, it is mainly to be attributed to its imperfect organization.

"Freemasonry is universal, and all Lodges, wheresoever dispersed around the globe, constitute but one Lodge. This clearly and distinctly expresses the exalted idea that our Union is a unit, which as yet awaits realization.

“However great and manifold may be the merits due to the first Grand Lodge—that of England—for her Masonic labors, and however much entitled to our gratitude, still it can not be denied that she has not sufficiently guarded the general unity of the institution. It therefore could not fail that the institution, in the course of its expansion and development in various countries, would to some extent assume, not only other forms and laws, but also different characteristics, according to the spirit of nationality and the peculiar necessities and tendencies of the age.

“In the course of the last century a centrifugal movement took place, which more or less led to a formation of the Grand Lodges, according to geographical and political boundaries. In its train followed divisions and isolations; the various Grand Lodges adopted different constitutions, doctrines, usages, and systems; and are not at all, or at best but loosely, united to each other.

“Freemasonry must be a unit, a confederation of and for humanity. This, however, is not yet the case, in the full sense of the word; neither will it be, so long as its unity, as heretofore, is only an *ideal*, produced by the ties of a spirit of brotherhood and the form of its rites; nor until it has received *externally* a corresponding expression by a formal representation through *universal* laws and regulations.

“The *Verein deutscher Freimaurer*, animated by a desire to reunite the Order in freedom and love, according to the organic nature of the institution and the progressive idea and tendencies of the times, has industriously occupied itself for years with a draft of universal laws for the institution, and after conscientious deliberation, has adopted the same at the annual meeting held at Worms, on the 8th and 9th of June, in the form accompanying this. The undersigned officers have received the honorable commission to lay before you, honored and beloved brethren, these fundamental laws for examination and adoption. It cannot escape your attention that a unity in essentials only is aimed at, uniting with what already exists, and aiming at that which is attainable. In other respects, it absolutely adheres to the Masonic principles of freedom, equality and brotherly love, self-administration, and universal priesthood; and this every Grand Lodge may adopt.

“It would be unnecessary for us to point out in particular how desirable and beneficial in its consequences for the institution and the human race the result would be, if all Grand Lodges would unite in a call for an International Masonic Congress, and the formation of an administrative committee for the whole union (Universal Grand Lodge). Bold as this idea may appear, its realization is no longer chimerical, since communication has become so extended everywhere, since nations have drawn closer to each other by international industrial exhibitions—it already is a reality. And what has been possible for material interests, can and must also be attainable for the spiritual and moral interests of the human race! It is only necessary that every individual and every corporation should manifest the good-will so proper in view of so great and good a cause: to go to work courageously and free from prejudice, and to sacrifice willingly personal inclinations and opinions.

“If, therefore, the influence of the Lodges has been generally beneficial; and if, wherever they have labored in the true spirit, they have promoted and extended

morality, brotherly love, and the welfare of the human race, how much more will this be the case if the single links of the union are drawn closer to each other ; if they shall improve their internal arrangements, breathe new life into the Masonic body, keep step with the progressive tendencies of the times, and labor everywhere according to one plan and in the same spirit.

“ Under the full expectation that you, honored and beloved brethren, will willingly unite with us to produce, as far as possible, an internal and external unity, and an organic bond of the union, and thereby call into existence the golden age of Masonry, we confidently ask you to accept and favor the following, in the spirit of and resting upon the fundamental laws of the Ancient Charges of 1723, which would serve to produce an internal bond between all Lodges and Masons of the world.

“ In this hope we salute you with respect and brotherly love.

“ By order of the *Verein deutscher Maurer*,

(The officers).

“ WORMS, June, 1867.”

To give the laws adopted by the society, and alluded to in the foregoing manifest *in extensio*, would require too much of our space ; we will, therefore, merely give what appears to us to be their principal points.

“ Every association adopting these fundamental laws for its guidance, becomes a recognized part of the Masonic Union, that is to say, a just and perfect Lodge, as soon as the officers of a confederation of Lodges (Grand Lodges), or three recognized Lodges, have examined their laws and regulations, and certified to their Masonic correctness.

“ Isolated Lodges should not exist. Lodges and Grand Lodges should be organized into National Grand Lodges, and assemble periodically. These should be composed of representatives of all the Lodges, and elect their own officers. Wherever this can not be carried out, all Grand Lodges, who have adopted the same fundamental laws, should assemble in one body. In the latter case, every individual Lodge of the nation must belong to one of these Grand Lodges.

“ By means of this national confederation, all Lodges become a part of the Universal Grand Lodge, which receives its vitality in the Universal (international) Masonic Congress, and the Supreme College of officers to be elected therein.

“ Even where National Grand Lodges exist, Confederations of Lodges, as above described, may exist, if they adopt the laws of the National Grand Lodge. In the same manner the National, as well as every other Grand Lodge, is subject to the laws of the Universal Grand Lodge : and every individual Lodge to those of the Lodge Confederation to which it belongs.

“ Special laws are enacted in individual Lodges by its members, in the Lodge Confederations by the assembled deputies of the Lodges composing the same.

“ Every five or seven years the National Masonic Congress, or the Grand Lodge occupying that position, elect deputies to the International Masonic Congress. The latter has the sole right to change any laws which may have been adopted, by a two-thirds vote.

“ The International Masonic Congress, under direction of its elected officers, whose powers it prescribes, enacts special laws, etc. It is the Supreme Court, enforces the general laws, and has power to punish violations of the same, by censure or by withdrawal of Masonic recognition. This Congress is also the Supreme Court of Appeals in case of differences between the subordinate parts of the Confederation.

“ Every part of the Union is subject to the laws of the Confederation, and to those of the State Government in which it is located.”

This, then, is the result of the labors of the *Verein*, or rather of its recognized leaders. The first meeting of the *Verein* was held in May, 1861, and others were held annually thereafter, excepting in 1866. This self-constituted body proclaimed at its birth that it aimed at the abolition of Grand Lodges, and at a change of all ritualistic forms, which latter would necessarily result in a change of the spirit of the Masonic Institution. Having placed itself at first upon a level with Lodges and Grand Lodges, it now even takes a step in advance of that position, issues a *manifest* to all Grand Lodges of the world, and calls upon them to adopt its proposed fundamental laws.

A self-constituted Masonic Lodge has ever been deemed clandestine, and communication with it interdicted. Single members or a congregation of them cannot act independently; they must have the approval of constituted authority, and every effort that does not rest upon a legal foundation must be held to be uncalled for and unlawful. The position of this body claiming to be Masonic is, to say the least, anomalous. The annual assemblies of Masons of former times was superseded by formation of the Grand Lodge of England, the peculiar features of which are generally engrafted in some form upon almost all the Grand Lodges of the world.

Whilst, however, the Grand Lodges of the United States are composed of the representatives (Master and Wardens) of the daughter Lodges, who annually elect the officers of the Grand Lodge from among their own number, this is not the case in all the Grand Lodges of Europe. In some of the Grand Lodges of Germany, for instance, Lodges are denied the privilege of direct representation from among their own members. They are compelled to nominate their representatives from the members of a Lodge located at the seat of the Grand Lodge. The defects of that system it is unnecessary for us to point out. If the reformers had confined their efforts to bring about a change in that system by lawful means, they would have had a plausible pretext for their movement. But having, like all reformers, aimed at the uprooting of all that has been heretofore held sacred and inviolable, a total failure of their plans could have been foreseen. Discovering that the great body of the Fraternity in Germany remained aloof, they have changed base. Their former watchword "Abolition of Grand Lodges" is changed to "Confederacy of Lodges, Grand Lodges, National Grand Lodges, and Universal Grand Lodges." Instead of depriving Grand Lodges of all power, they propose to create a Universal Grand Lodge, with power of making laws to govern and control the Masonic Fraternity of the world. To speculate upon the result which the realization of this chimerical and impracticable idea would produce, we consider a waste of time. And if the plan could be carried into effect, what position would this Universal Grand Lodge occupy in regard to the three Prussian Grand Lodges and their King Protector? Would or could he or they submit to an "authority" over them? And how would an edict of this "Supreme Grand Lodge" be respected in France, in case of disagreements among the brethren in that country, such as have occurred within the last decade, when NAPOLEON the Third forced upon them as Grand Master a man who was not then even a Mason? And as to the adoption of the plan in this country, we can only predict its utter failure. The formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States has been as often defeated as it was attempted. Neither the Grand Lodges of this country nor those of Europe are ready or willing to renounce their independence and subject themselves to a superior authority.

Reforms to be successful should originate in legal Lodges or Grand Lodges. The members of these bodies are the most competent judges of necessary changes. Whenever attempts for that purpose were made outside of this, they have invariably resulted in failure. We need only point to the efforts for Masonic reform in Germany itself, during the latter part of the last century. Not only did these attempts not lead to a closer union of the Fraternity, but rather to the estrangement of its several parts.

However well-meaning the propositions of these "Reformers" may be, their final effect upon our institution should be well considered. A change of our vital principles cannot be made, unless the *whole Fraternity* consents thereto. No portion of the great family has the right to lay them aside in part or whole. Such a step can only lead to the downfall of the institution. New principles may be adopted, new forms set up, new tendencies followed, but whenever that takes place, it will cease to be Masonry. Let us hold firmly to that which has been handed down to us, disturb not that which has heretofore been and is now considered sacred. If changes of a local nature are necessary to our brethren of Germany, let them effect them in a legitimate way, but let them beware how they remove the ancient landmarks.

That there is danger threatening Masonry here and everywhere from the facility with which the profane gain admission, cannot be denied. Wholesale initiations and the too rapid increase of Lodges are not conducive to the health and prosperity of the institution. Our numbers should not be recruited from those who are led within our *circlé* by motives of selfish ambition, social enjoyment, or curiosity. With the gratification of their object, their interest vanishes. The higher spirit of Masonry has never unfolded itself to them, because they never sought it. Self-improvement, a self-sacrificing love for the brotherhood, reflection on the life hereafter, and an elevation of soul, was not their aim. They merely sought for material advantages. Hence the material that offers itself for the building of our temple should be closely scrutinized, and the standard of acceptance raised. But the greatest danger lies hidden in a change of the principles that underlie our institution.

If reforms are necessary, let them be directed to a change of obsolete usages, to the pruning of abuses, to a careful scanning of the candidates' moral and mental qualifications. An entire change is neither called for nor necessary. It is not a principle of Masonry to force its spread. Let it be permitted to expand itself naturally. Let us preserve the liberty of religious faith. Let us foster a spirit of brotherly love among its members, a duty of self-knowledge, a spirit of humility, the practice of virtue, and imprint upon the minds of its votaries the necessity of laboring for the welfare of all. If Masonry cannot effect this, it has outlived its object and utility.

The *Verein* now has about three hundred members, comparatively a small number when we consider that it has existed seven years, and that Germany has twenty-five thousand Masons. It had selected Elberfeld (Prussia) as the place for its meeting this year. This, however, we are now informed, has been vetoed by the Grand Lodges of Prussia.

ITALY.

Masonry in Italy seems still to be in a somewhat unsettled condition. There exist in that country four Grand Lodges, viz., at Turin, Milan, Palermo, and Florence. The Grand Lodge at Florence, the largest of the four, has one hundred and thirty-nine Lodges under her jurisdiction, which includes those located in Turkey, etc.; that at Palermo thirty-nine Lodges, and the other two a small number only. A desire for a union of some of the Italian Grand Lodges had manifested itself, to which we alluded in our report of 1866, which, however, seems to have been frustrated. Dissensions sprung up, and publicity was given to these animosities in the papers of the day, which furnished rich materials to the enemies of Masonry. Not a voice seems to have been raised to correct the wrongful impressions created thereby.

The *Bullettino del Grande Oriente della Massoneria* in Italy contains a circular letter of the first Deputy Grand Master, Bro. FRAPOLI, of the Grand Orient of Italy, in which, among other things, he says that the aim of Masonry is threefold: 1. The

study of nature, and the peaceable promotion of universal progress. 2. The brotherhood and solidarity of the people. 3. The instruction and welfare of all members of the national family.

The Grand Orient has entered into closer relations with foreign Grand Lodges by the appointment of mutual representatives. In a letter addressed to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, Bro. FRAPOLI says: "In answer to the questions which you propound, I will freely state: 1. That the Lodges affiliated with the Grand Orient of Italy are strictly prohibited to discuss political questions; but in writing, we permit the same freedom that is conceded to every citizen by the State. 2. That after the late failure to form a united National Grand Lodge by excluding the irregular elements of Milan and Naples, we are of necessity obliged to guard our Lodges from contact with irregular brethren, the more so as these Lodges, although not numerous, are too indifferent in regard to the reception of material that offers itself. The Lodges formed by speculators or impostors at Naples and elsewhere we need not mention here."

The following, in regard to the Grand Orient at Florence, is from the procols of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg:

The Grand Orient of Italy, at Florence, called together by GARIBALDI and DE LUCCA, met in convention of all Italian Lodges, on the 24th June, at Naples.

Several important resolutions were adopted, among which are the following: A reduction of the members of the Grand Lodge from forty to twenty-four; the election of a Grand Master for five years; a reformation in the Ritual; prohibition to all daughter Lodges to discuss politics and church affairs; and an interdict to print Masonic articles without the sanction of the Grand Orient.

Bro. GARIBALDI was elected Honorary Grand Master for life, and DE LUCCA for the year 1867. Bro. TH. CORDOVA was elected Grand Master, and Bro. LUDOVICO FRAPOLI First Deputy Grand Master.

The *Bulletino Ufficiale del Gran Consiglio*, at Milan, contains the edicts and also a report of the annual communication of the Grand Orient at Naples. At the annual communication of July 15 and 16, 1867, at Milan, eight Lodges were represented. The proposition for a union of all Italian Grand Lodges into one body was discussed, but a union with the Grand Orient at Florence and the Scottish Rite was declined. Bro. ANSONIO FRANCHI was made honorary presiding officer for life. Bros. REINERI and AGLEBERT second and third honorary presiding officers. Bro. GUILIANO GUASTALLA was elected presiding officer of the Grand Council. Bros. CREMONA and LUZZATI, Deputies, and SAMUEL SEGRE, Grand Secretary.

A Lodge has sprung into existence whose members belong to different Italian Lodges. They propose to remain independent from all Grand Lodges. Their aim is expressed in the name they have selected for themselves, "Propogandists of Masonic Unity." Their head is Bro. D. SAMPIERI, 33d.:

GRAND LODGE OF THE NETHERLANDS.

The annual assembly of that Grand Body took place on the 25th of November, 1866. The fiftieth Masonic anniversary of the Grand Master, Prince FREDERIC, of the Netherlands, was celebrated by the Grand Lodge with great splendor on that day. Deputations from forty-two Lodges participated therein. To commemorate the event, the Grand Master presented to the Grand Lodge his rich collection of Masonic works, manuscripts, etc., formerly the property of Bro. KLOSS, deceased.

A provincial Grand Lodge of South Africa was instituted at Cape Town. Four new Lodges were chartered in South Africa.

From the report of the Grand Lodge of June 16, 1867, it appears that the Grand

Master has appointed Bro. VAN LENNEP as Deputy Grand Master, in place of Bro. VAN RAPPARD, deceased.

The Grand Lodge has affiliated with her fifty active and sixteen dormant Lodges, and eighteen of which no information has been received for some time past.

From the decennial report of Bro. WILLEKES MACDONALD, it appears that during that time the membership in the Netherlands has increased by 400. In the Netherlands, excepting therefrom, however, the colonies, there were on the 31st March, 1866, 1,862 Masons; and according to the latest information, they had increased to 1,907.

According to a report from Alexandria, a Lodge has been instituted in the valley of the Nile by the name of "Abraham Lincoln," working under a charter of the Grand Orient of Italy.

The Grand Lodge exchanged representatives with the Grand Lodge of Lusitania (Portugal).

The *Buiteland'sche Correspondentie* discusses the allocution of the Pope very thoroughly, and winds up the article as follows "If the question is asked how the allocution was received in different countries, the answer may be given as follows: In Italy with derision, in France with an apology, in England with contempt, in Germany with grief."

GREECE.

Whilst we deeply regret the discontinuance of the Grand Lodge of Hanover, we rejoice over the formation of a Grand Lodge in ancient Greece. Athens was heretofore the seat of a Directory under the Grand Orient of Italy, with the following eight Lodges under its jurisdiction: 1. Panhellenium, at Athens; 2. Possidonia, in Pereo; 3. Scufas, at Calcio; 4. Corcyros, at Corfu; 5. Archimedes, at Patrasso; 6. Figli di Leonida, at Syra; 7. Rhigas de Pherréen, at Lamia; 8. Progresso, at Argos.

The Directory and Lodges petitioned the Grand Orient of Italy to assent to a severance of the connection, to which the latter gave its consent on the 7th April, 1867, at the same time granting permission to form a Grand Lodge.

A constituting assembly of the Greek Freemasons accordingly met on the 18th day of May, and continued in session until the 2d of June. A constitution was formed, which is soon to be published. Bro. NICHOLAS DAMASHINO was elected and installed Deputy Grand Master, to conduct the affairs of the Grand Lodge until a Grand Master is elected. An exchange of representatives was effected with the Grand Orient of Italy.

The pleasure with which we greet this news is marred by occurrences which have since taken place in that country. A letter dated June 17, 1867, at Patras, brings the sorrowful news that on the 16th of June, after the close of divine service, incendiary placards against Freemasonry, invoking God's wrath against them, were distributed among the people. At twelve o'clock M. a rabble, numbering two or three hundred, attacked the house of a quiet, peaceable man, a photographic artist by occupation, because he was supposed to be the head of Freemasons. Windows, furniture, etc., were smashed, and his house, with one adjoining, burned to the ground. By the greatest exertions only, and with the aid of faithful friends, the photographer succeeded in making his escape from the daggers of his persecutors. He was hunted for in every direction, and would have undoubtedly fallen a victim to the wrath of the mob had he not succeeded in reaching a foreign steamer lying at anchor in the port. Half an hour after the occurrence, the police and armed men made their appearance on the scene of the riot, whereupon the mob dispersed. It was the intention of the rabble to fire the dwelling of every Freemason in the place.

On the day following a demonstration was made to raze the house of another Free-mason, which, however, were frustrated by the timely arrival of the police. A young man was most brutally beaten in his own house, and another escaped a similar fate by presenting a pistol and threatening to shoot down the first man who attempted to lay hands upon him. Since then the foreigners have called upon their consuls for protection for themselves and their property. The police also took precautionary measures, and peace has not since been disturbed. The chief mover in this persecution of Freemasons is said to be the son of a Greek ex-Minister of State, because he was rejected by a newly constituted Lodge on account of his notoriously bad and immoral character. It is also stated that incendiary articles published in a public journal in Athens, and the fanaticism of a physician and a lawyer, contributed to incite the populace. They insist that the Freemasons were in league with the devil, that they were conspiring to overthrow the orthodox church, etc. The authorities are said to have taken the matter very coolly, and it is reported that an officer of high position has expressed himself "that he greatly regretted that one house only was burned to the ground."

If scenes like these had occurred when Greece was under the heel of the Turk, it might have been attributed to the barbarism of the people. But what palliation is there for regenerated Greece? They are a disgrace to the nation. Even the authorities looked on apparently with complacency, and mob-law was rampant and supreme. The laws of the land and of society are violated with impunity, and the rabble stride through the streets with murder and arson inscribed upon their banner.

But if it is claimed that the rioters were the dregs of the town, what explanation can be made of the following article which appeared in a public journal of the day, and which reads as follows :

"I assume that the people of Patras have burned the Lodge and killed all the Masons. Where is the law that condemns him who has killed the wolf? Has not Christ himself said of those who give offense to their brethren, 'that it would be good for them if a mill-stone was tied around their neck, and they were drowned in the depths of the sea.' Would they not have benefited humanity and performed a work of love, if they had done what Christ has taught? Such a work, according to Christ's teachings, would have been wholesome for the Masons themselves, because it stops their bad acts, that are a vexation to the souls of the brethren, and which will be the more punishable in the judgment to come."

Can it be believed that the above is written in the present age of civilization? The *auto da fes*, the rack of the Inquisition, never proclaimed murder and rapine with more boldness. But where such doctrines are openly and boldly proclaimed and taught, where the mob is permitted to walk about unpunished and unmolested, and where it is unblushingly asserted that such acts are not crimes, but God-pleasing deeds, and that it is a religious duty to burn down the dwellings of their neighbors who differ with them in opinion, where it is proclaimed that murder resounds to the glory of God and truth, can it be said that justice exists? Deep must be the social degradation of a people that upholds such a government and such doctrines. Its moral sense is at a low ebb.

BRAZIL.

The Grand Lodges *Dos Benedictinos* and *Do Lavradio*, at Rio de Janeiro, are still occupying their former antagonistic position. The Grand Lodge *Dos Benedictinos* has published a report, in which she states that she is now recognized by the Grand Orient of France, the Grand Lodge of Lusitania and Hanover, and the Supreme

Councils of New York and Cuba. She has thirty-five daughter Lodges under her jurisdiction, of which seventeen are at Rio and eighteen in the provinces.

Bro. JOAQUIM SALDENHA MORINHO is Grand Master; Bro. JOAQUIM JOZE IGNACIO, Deputy Grand Master; and Bro. JOAO SOVERINO DA SILVA, Grand Secretary. At a festival Lodge, held by the Grand Lodge on the 16th of May, 1865, the Grand Master addressed the brethren. In the address he alluded to the aims which the Grand Lodge had set before itself, among which is the abolition of slavery in Brazil, and the education of the masses.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In closing our report upon European Grand Lodges, we desire to mention a part of the Masonic family with which heretofore our acquaintance has been very slight. In Wallachia and Roumania, the country which lately chose a new ruler in Prince CHARLES, of the House of Hohenzollern, we are informed, considerable agitation is perceptible among the members of Lodges now working under the Grand Orient of France. The brethren of the Lodges *Les Disciples de Pythagore*, at Galatz, and *Le Phare Hospitalier*, at Braila, are agitating the question of severing their connection with the Grand Orient of France, and forming a Grand Lodge of their own, under the name of *Grand Orient de Roumaine*, with its seat at Bucharest, now the capital of the country. The German brethren at Galatz, said to number about forty, have it under consideration to apply for a charter to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg. It is, however, stated that the German element is at present too weak to promise success.

Upon the whole, the tidings that come to us from that region are not very encouraging. The brethren, as a body, residing there, lack the zeal necessary to promote the interest of the institution. The attendance of the Lodge meetings are reported to be very slim and the diversity of opinions prevailing among the brethren seems to be retarding the development of sociality and the progress of Masonry.

Some of the government officers, particularly in the telegraph offices, who were Masons, have been dismissed. It is, however, reported that this is done without the knowledge and against the wishes of Prince CHARLES. Let us hope that Masonry will also there find a genial soil.

From Egypt the news comes to us that the Lodge *Luce d'Orient*, at Cairo, has called a convention of Lodges. The following responded to the call: *Les Pyramides*, *Regeneration de la Grece*, *Cajo Graces*, *Ecossais*, and *St. John's*, of Alexandria, *Bulwer*, *Sphynx*, *Grecia* and *Luce d'Oriente*, of Cairo, and *Mont Sinai*, of Suez.

The object of the convention was to effect a closer alliance among the Lodges of that country, and to advance the interest of Masonry.

A number of resolutions were adopted, some of which, according to our ideas, are foreign to the spirit of Masonry.

Whilst Masonry in Europe, during the past year, has been generally prosperous, it has not escaped vituperations and persecutions. Ancient Rome, the metropolis of a priestly hierarchy, sounds the key-note as usual. Untiring in its efforts to bring to servitude the free spirit of God-worship, it encompasses the world with its emissaries, for the purpose of retarding the efforts made for the education and enlightenment of the people. But its days are numbered; it must crumble to ruins. Not the Rome with its palaces and art treasures; but Rome the seat of an hierarchy, whose success lies in the ignorance of the masses. Papal bulls and anathemas have lost their terror. No longer do they shake thrones, no longer do they draw pilgrim penitent potentes in ashes and sackcloth to the feet of the Pope, and no longer

does he dispense crowns, no longer make and unmake emperors and kings. The spell is broken and dispelled.

In Italy, where Masonry, but a few years ago, was prohibited under the severest penalties, and where our rites were practiced in secret, it has found a permanent abiding place, and the Masonic gavel resounds even within hearing of the Vatican.

Portugal and Greece now have their Grand Lodges. The annexation of Hesse to Prussia has opened that country also to our Royal Art. Austria, where from 1780 to 1790 Masonry enjoyed great prosperity, but where in 1795 the Lodges were closed by the Imperial Government, is now compelled to make concessions to its people. It has already enacted laws regulating the rights of associations and the assembling of societies, and the day is not remote when that country will again see prosperous Lodges within its boundaries. Already the organ of the Archbishop of Vienna expresses the fear that the radicals of that city are determined to establish Masonic Lodges.

Russia and Spain cannot much longer remain so far in the rear of progressing enlightenment. And although the Belgian Senator Baron DELLA FAILLA, the presiding officer of a Catholic Congress that met at Mechlen, proclaims in his harangue to that body, "that they are the sons of the crusaders, they also must undertake a crusade against the damned unbelievers," comparing the Freemasons to the Mohammedans and Masonry to the Islam, thereby showing that the old hatred is still rankling in the bosom of some, who should rise above it by means of their education ; it is, on the other hand, not without interest to know that, under the Prussian Government, slanders against Freemasonry will no longer go unpunished. For we are informed that the rector of a Catholic Church at Cologne was condemned, by the Correctional Court, to pay a fine of 25 thalers and to imprisonment for ten days, for an article insulting to Masonic Lodges, which he published in his paper, and for spreading falsehoods that would expose them to the hatred and contempt of the public.

The prophet says : "Watchman, what of the night?" The Watchman replies : "It is still night, but the morning is dawning." And the morning is dawning for Masonry in those countries.

IN CONCLUSION

We have but a word to add, and that is to say, that we have endeavored with an impartial hand and in the spirit of fraternal love to give such a sketch of the transactions of our great Brotherhood as may fairly represent its status at the time of review. While it is impossible, within any reasonable limit, to reproduce all the good things that have passed under our notice in the thousands of pages before us, it has been a matter of no small difficulty to keep our report within its present bounds, and yet do moderate justice to our contemporaries. That the brethren of our jurisdiction will read it, we have a right in their interest to ask. That the same prosperity which has thus far attended the doings of the Craft may be continued, and that it may be given to us all, humbly acknowledging the Source of the many blessings vouchsafed us, wisely to profit by our opportunities, we earnestly pray.

JOHN L. LEWIS,
JOHN W. SIMONS,
M. PINNER. } Committee.

NORTH CAROLINA.

This Grand Lodge commenced its eighty-second annual communication, at Raleigh, December 7th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and seventy-one Lodges were represented.

The M.·. W.·. R. W. BEST, Grand Master, has no mercy for the drones and parasites, which he says got into the Lodges during the war. He says, "We repeat, cut them off, for they are as much out of place in a Masonic Lodge, as a viper in a nursery." He was much exercised about the work, fearing that Bro. STEVENSON, the Grand Lecturer, had lost the true, simon-pure "STEVENSON work" of the Grand Lodge. So he called a convention, *convinced* the aged brother of his errors, and established what some brother called the "best work," and was at rest. He had decided that a candidate could be stopped till the degree was conferred, and that the objecting brother need not give his reasons. He recommended omitting printing the names of all the brethren with the proceedings, but the Grand Lodge thought differently, so we have one hundred and forty-eight pages of them. He reports having granted sixteen dispensations for new Lodges. He also recommends a Masonic Congress of all Grand Lodges in America, to settle the work, which he thinks needs settling as much now as it did in 1843. Does our brother suppose, we wonder, that all other Grand Lodges, like North Carolina, believe in the Baltimore work?

On the recommendation of a committee who had applied to all the Grand Lodges for copies of any written work which might be permitted in their respective jurisdictions, but had been able to hear of none but a proposal to have one in Rhode Island, apparently not yet carried out, the following was adopted:

"Resolved, That the making or using of any letter or cypher to the true Masonic work and mysteries, is not authorized by the ancient customs of the order, is contrary to its principles and teachings and cannot, therefore, be sanctioned by this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the true Masonic mysteries should be taught and handed down by oral teaching alone, as has been done from remote ages, and that any departure from this principle is fraught with danger to the institution."

The experience of the committee in search of such light to the contrary notwithstanding, we believe no Grand Lodge exists, which works any modification of the PRESTON-WEBB or the

HEMMING work and lectures, in which some such work, in writing or print, cannot be found, and is not relied upon; the truth being, no human memory can be relied upon to retain and perpetuate so much of verbal accuracy as either of these systems demands. Twelve charters were granted, and three Lodges continued under dispensation. The committee to whom was referred the Grand Master's proposal for a National Congress on the work, reported in favor, but the Grand Lodge determined that it was inexpedient.

The report on correspondence was from the pen of Bro. ROBERT B. VANCE, and reviews the proceedings of forty-three domestic and three foreign Grand Bodies. G.: M.: WILLIAMS, of Alabama, had decided that when the W. Master prefers charges, he should not preside at the trial, and that the Senior Warden should preside although the W. Master be present. Bro. VANCE does not concur, holding, as we think correctly, that in the presence of the W. Master, no one can take the East from him but the Grand Master or his Deputy. He also holds that the W. Master, in the case supposed, may preside, which we doubt. The W. Master should not prefer charges, for it places him in inconsistent positions. If he feels compelled to do so, the Grand Master should be requested to preside himself or by Deputy. Bro. VANCE is one of the last who alludes to the political situation in the late war, and not without some bitterness, which, however we might have looked for it a few years ago, is now inexcusable. He seems quite pleased with the report of Bro. BARRY, of Georgia, from which we quoted in a former report. In two instances, our North Carolina brethren have gone off at half-cock: in charging the Grand Lodge of New York with instituting negro Lodges, and in charging the Grand Lodge of England with the improper conduct of two Lodges at Halifax, then working under Scotch charters. We should have been glad if, when they had learned their error, they had more frankly admitted it. In the first instance, without any apology for the wrong done New York—a wrong which very slight knowledge of current Masonic intelligence should have prevented—they shift their complaint to the charge, that New York should have told them of the existence of the clandestine negro Lodges; the puerility of which is apparent. The Grand Lodge of England, having courteously examined into the complaint made to it, and shown that in this matter, at

least, it had done no wrong, our North Carolina brethren, instead of making an apology for the charge, complain of the Colonial Board of England, because it takes the occasion to reiterate the views of that Grand Lodge on the subject of jurisdiction—views universally condemned on this continent, but generally acted upon in Europe.

NOVA SCOTIA.

From this Grand Lodge we have proceedings of several quarterly communications, and the annual communication, at Halifax, June 24th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868.

At the quarterly communication, September 13th, A. L. 5867, eight Lodges were represented. The only matter of interest was the passage of a resolution that a Fellow Craft, who by sickness had been deprived of the full use of his limbs, might be raised to the third degree.

At the quarterly communication, December 13th, A. L. 5867, eleven Lodges were represented. At this communication, G.: M.: DAVIS recommended that the Grand Lodge should fix a time, within which all Lodges in the Province should unite with it or be declared clandestine. The committee on the Grand Master's address, while concurring generally in his views, recommended that action be deferred until the next communication. A charter was granted to Scotia Lodge, before on the registry of Scotland. The Grand Master, from impaired health, was compelled to leave the Province, whereupon an address and a piece of plate were presented, in token of the appreciation of the brethren of his labors in behalf of the Grand Lodge, to which he made a suitable reply.

At the quarterly communication, March 15th, A. L. 5868, eleven Lodges were represented. The Deputy Grand Master, R.: W.: S. R. SIRCOM, reported that he had granted three dispensations for Lodges, one of which was to a Lodge formerly under Scottish jurisdiction; to all of which charters were granted.

An emergent communication was held May 15th, A. L. 5868, at which nine Lodges were represented. The Deputy Grand Master stated the object to be, to appoint a committee to confer with one appointed by the District Grand Lodge under English authority; which committee was appointed.

At the quarterly communication, June 12th, A. L. 5868, twelve Lodges were represented. The Deputy Grand Master reported having issued a dispensation for Acacia Lodge, formerly under the Grand Lodge of England. The committee appointed to confer with District Grand Lodge reported that the English Lodges proposed the following :

"The committee from the District Grand Lodge propose to the committee from the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, that a convention of all the Masonic bodies as Lodges in the Province, be called at some convenient place for the purpose of forming a United Grand Lodge, under one head, to be called the United Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. That at said convention all superiority be left aside, and that the parties there present, form themselves into a Grand Lodge, and there make choice of Grand Lodge officers, issue warrants, &c."

To which they made the following counter proposition :

"In order to a thorough consolidation of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, the Grand Lodge are desirous to accomplish the same, and the committee of the said Grand Lodge propose that the Lodges under the Grand Lodge of England be welcomed into the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, should an application be made, either through the Secretary of the District Grand Lodge, or directly by the Lodges to the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. That then the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia issue such authority to said Lodges as will entitle them to all their Lodge rights, such as their funds, the position of their Past Masters, and other matters, and full representation in Grand Lodge under the constitution.

That charters be granted to said Lodges at or after the quarterly meeting in September, and at such meeting the roll of said Grand Lodge be revised, and the Lodges shall be numbered and placed on the roll according to the seniority of such Lodges, by satisfactory proof of the date of the original organization of the several Lodges on the list at such period."

The following resolution was adopted :

"That should an application be received from any Lodge under English jurisdiction for a warrant, during recess of Grand Lodge, the Deputy Grand Master be empowered to grant a working warrant upon receipt of the application, and that the confirmation of the same be made the first business of the annual communication, and that said Lodge be entitled, at said communication, to a full representation."

A charter was granted to Acacia Lodge.

At the annual communication, thirteen Lodges were represented. The Deputy Grand Master reported having granted a dispensation for a Lodge at Barrington ; that he had attempted a correspondence with the Grand Master of Scotland, but no action had been taken by that Grand Lodge because of the absence of the Grand Master, who, through indisposition, had been compelled to retire to the south of France. He refers to the report of the

committee of conference, for the progress of matters in the Province.

The Grand Secretary reports a long circular which he had sent to all Lodges in the Province, giving the circumstances attending the formation of the Grand Lodge, and the negotiations with the English District Grand Lodge, with their failure, and urging all the Lodges not already affiliated with the Grand Lodge, to do so. Notice was given by a brother that, at the next communication, he should move that all Lodges in the Province not uniting with the Grand Lodge should be declared clandestine. The new Grand Officers were installed by M.: W.: HIRAM CHASE, Past Grand Master, of Maine. The difficulties under which this Grand Lodge has labored, prove the necessity of the law, which should be adhered to, that all the Lodges within the political division in which it is proposed to establish a new Grand Lodge, should be invited, and that at least a majority of them, not less than three, should unite in its formation. We deem it probable the Grand Lodge will be able to sustain itself, and finally obtain exclusive jurisdiction in the Province, but if they had acted with the discretion and good judgment of their neighbors in New Brunswick, the craft would have been spared a too scandalous struggle for authority, the influence of which can hardly be other than injurious to the institution.

The report on correspondence was prepared by Bro. WILLIAM TAYLOR, and notices the proceedings of twenty-eight Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. He commences by saying:

"We deem this department highly requisite. This is about the only way that our Lodges can obtain a general idea of what takes place in the Masonic world, and how very many important points that we are in doubt and uncertainty about, are disposed of in older and more experienced jurisdictions. Your committee have carefully kept this object in view in their extracts. We have refrained from any criticisms of our own, wishing rather to learn well and truly the workings of our venerable institution themselves, and having our brethren of the jurisdiction enlightened by the opinions and decisions of those who have labored long to good effect in placing the order in so efficient and honorable position as it now occupies."

What the committee propose to themselves, they appear to have done well, but we deem something more than this the duty of committees of correspondence.

OHIO.

This Grand Lodge held its fifty-ninth annual communication at Dayton, October 20th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Two hundred and sixty-five Lodges were represented.

The M.·. W.·. HOWARD MATHEWS, Grand Master, reports having granted twenty dispensations for new Lodges. He seems to doubt the necessity of so many new Lodges, but considered himself bound to grant the dispensation if the necessary forms had been gone through, and the proper papers presented. This, if the correct view of his power and duty under the laws of his Grand Lodge, shows a most unsound condition of things. The Grand Lodge should at once place a share of the responsibility upon the Grand Master by placing the final granting of dispensations at his discretion. He reports that in one Lodge, a brother having presented a written protest against the advancement of two Entered Apprentices, the Lodge ordered it to be laid "under the table," which coming to his ears, he had arrested the charter of the Lodge, and he recommended it should be declared forfeited. He refers to a growing disposition to cultivate androgynous degrees, notwithstanding an edict of the Grand Lodge prohibiting side degrees. He recommends that Lodges be allowed to create emeritus members of those who, by age or infirmity are no longer able to participate in all the active work of the Lodge; honorary membership to be conferred on those who have rendered valuable service to the craft; not active members of the Lodge conferring it.

The proposal to amend the constitution, by confining the representation of the Lodges to the W. Masters, having failed to obtain the necessary majority of the Lodges, was ordered to be again submitted. Twenty-six charters were ordered to issue to new Lodges, and two dispensations were granted. A proposition was made, from a committee appointed the year before, to provide a mode of commutation of dues, which was referred to the committee on by-laws, to report next year. Adoptive side degrees were expressly forbidden, and Lodges forbidden to allow their halls to be used to confer them. The arrest of the charter of the Lodge that threw a brother's protest under the table, was approved, and the Grand Master authorized in his discretion to restore it.

The report on correspondence, from the pen of Bro. Wm. M. CUNNINGHAM, reviews the proceedings of thirty-two Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. He has something to say about the Great Falls' books.

OREGON.

This Grand Lodge held its eighteenth annual communication at Portland, June 22d, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Twenty-six Lodges were represented.

The M.·. W.·. AVERY A. SMITH, Grand Master, thus admonishes his brethren :

"I would, however, admonish my brethren that we as Masons have other and higher duties to perform than the transaction of the simple business of the Lodge and learning scanty portions of our ritual ; that we are not Masons simply because we have been regularly initiated, passed and raised in a just and legally constituted Lodge of such. We can only become such by learning to subdue our passions, acting upon the square, keeping a tongue of good report, practicing charity and conforming to all the excellent rules and requirements Masonry inculcates."

He reports having granted four dispensations for new Lodges. He had decided :

"A brother must have sat in open Lodge with another within one year, before he can properly vouch for him ; otherwise he should be examined."

We can see no reason for the limit, and the committee on jurisprudence, to whom it was referred, say they "know of no Masonic law to sustain it, although" they "consider it a safe rule." He had also decided that an unfavorable report did not reject a candidate, but a ballot must be had. The committee on jurisprudence, on the authority of MACKEY, reported against this, and the Grand Lodge ordered it stricken out. The general consent of Grand Lodges had settled this question against Bro. MACKEY, very illogically, as it seems to us, but when anything is settled, we prefer to have it stay settled.

Four charters were granted to new Lodges, and a charter restored which had been surrendered, as the committee say, to :

"Establish the precedent that the Grand Lodge is but the custodian of the charter of a subordinate Lodge, and the same can be returned at any time when the disability under which it was surrendered no longer exists, subject at all times to the decision of the Grand Lodge."

The report on correspondence was prepared by Bro. S. F. CHADWICK, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-eight Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. He takes exception to our regulation requiring a rejected applicant for membership to wait a year before making a new application. We understand him to admit the rule to be proper as to petitions for initiation, but thinks the Master Mason should be at liberty to apply as often as he pleases. We admit that the Master Mason has rights far superior to the profane, but not that one of those rights is that of membership in any particular Lodge, until he shall have been received by the members thereof, while we think,—and upon that our regulation is based,—that the harmony of the Lodge is best promoted by requiring him, in case of rejection, to wait till the feelings which are apt on such occasions to arise, have had time to fade away; and also because when the application is immediately renewed it is apt to give rise to canvassing, on the part of friends, to secure his election, which almost necessarily leads to trouble. Our law does not proceed, as Bro. CHADWICK seems to suppose, upon any idea that the brother is unworthy, but upon the entirely different one of preserving the harmony of the Lodge, nor do we conceive that any wrong is done the brother, who, we are confident, is more frequently the one chiefly benefited by the regulation. Much of the brother's reasoning seems to us based on the new-fangled California notion, that non-affiliates, although their position as such is against their will, are, without trial and without guilt, to be indefinitely suspended. As the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire has not yet adopted this new notion, and probably never will, the wrong our brother anticipates in that way is not likely to occur.

PENNSYLVANIA.

From this Grand Lodge, we have an abstract of proceedings for the year 5868.

A quarterly communication was held at Philadelphia, December 2d, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868, at which one hundred and thirty Lodges were represented.

The committee of finance reported the Grand Lodge charity fund to amount to \$55,322.39, and the Girard trust to \$52,035.64.

They also report the whole amount expended on the new temple to be \$209,344.77.

The annual communication was held at Philadelphia, December 28th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. The "abstract" does not show that any Lodges were represented. We formerly saw remarks upon the unnecessary number of Grand Chaplains our Grand Masters had appointed, but G. M. VAUX has gone farther in that direction than ever was done here; he appointed and installed no less than *fifteen*.

The R. W. RICHARD VAUX, Grand Master, in his address, congratulates his brethren that they are so well contented with their isolation in the matter of work, that used in that State being different from that in use in any other part of the world. He says:

"The attachment to Pennsylvania work has been revived; its simple but impressive ceremonies are viewed and understood as the true symbolization of those great truths and eternal principles of Freemasonry which exist in their grandeur and beauty when freed from all extrinsic and mere ostentatious clothing, intended too often as attractive for those who are never Masons, though members of the craft. The esoteric mysteries which Freemasonry holds enfolded within its sealed and secured enclosures, can only be comprehended by their own light. Their perpetuity in their original character can only be maintained by the most unyielding opposition to every innovation. If the mind and heart of a brother need modern novelties to clothe these mysteries with that which is an innovation, to be more comprehensible or commanding, he has mistaken an *ignis fatuus* for Masonic light, and great will become his blindness."

He repeats his request of last year, that Pennsylvania brethren be not too strictly examined; but if our brethren there insist upon having a work different from everybody else, we can see no injustice in requiring them to learn at least so much of what all other Masons deem desirable, if not essential, as shall enable them to prove themselves to us. He truly says, the danger to Masonry now is from within, not from without. He reports having constituted thirty-one new Lodges the past year. He argues that committees of investigation should report unanimously; such is not our practice, nor do we see any good reason for it. A large part of the pamphlet is taken up with the ceremonies and address at the laying of the corner-stone of the new temple, June 24th.

The report on correspondence was prepared by Bro. J. R. FISHER, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-five domestic and

four foreign Grand Bodies. The committee and the Grand Master make great point of what they call the Pennsylvania doctrine, that each Grand Lodge is absolutely supreme in its own jurisdiction. Hence, the committee decline to criticise the action of their neighbors, which seems to us a perfect *non sequitur*; for, admitting the supremacy and independence of each Grand Lodge, friendly and kindly criticism is in no way inconsistent therewith, and furnishes the most ready, if not the only, method of securing that degree of uniformity which is essential, if we would have our institution the same in substance in each jurisdiction,—differences in details there will always be. They do, however, give us the benefit of their disapproval of our action in the Great Falls' matter. Of Nova Scotia and West Virginia, the committee say:

“The rule adopted with such general approval of its Masonic justice, and indeed as Masonic law in regard to the Grand Lodge of Canada, must govern in both these cases. That rule strictly stated is this: A Grand Lodge, to be so considered, must be the only supreme, sovereign Masonic authority within its boundaries. In both Nova Scotia and West Virginia, there is a conflict of Masonic authority as to this very question.”

That is, there was no Grand Lodge (legal one, we suppose is meant) in England from 1735 to 1813; in Massachusetts, till the union in 1792; there is now none in Prussia, Italy, Brazil, and, we believe, some other countries where two Grand Lodges amicably divide the jurisdiction. And how about Pennsylvania herself? There are, as it is reported, two other Grand Lodges claiming to be Masonic, in that State. Would the legitimate Grand Lodge there be entirely satisfied if her sister Grand Lodges should refuse her recognition, because of these spurious and clandestine bodies. Until recently, both Virginia and West Virginia claimed that the jurisdiction there belonged to themselves, each to the exclusion of the other; and because of the dispute, Pennsylvania would not decide. Would she like her own doctrine applied to herself? The committee disapprove of the incorporation of Lodges. They hold the correct doctrine on the subject of maims. They approve the system of Grand Lodge representatives, the utility of which has not been apparent to us, it seeming to be chiefly a way of multiplying high-sounding titles to some of our brethren who have a taste that way.

The almoners of the Grand Lodge charity report having distributed \$2,675 to one hundred and fifty-three applicants, from ten States and one foreign country; and the stewards of the Girard trust, that they had distributed \$2,784.50 to one hundred and six brethren from fifteen States and nine foreign countries.

R H O D E I S L A N D .

We have the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the year ending May 18th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868.

At the semi-annual communication held at Providence, November 18th, sixteen chartered Lodges and two under dispensation were represented. The proceedings were entirely local.

At the annual communication, held at Providence, May 18th, twenty Lodges were represented, with two under dispensation.

A committee, appointed to investigate the case of Bro. OVERTON G. LANGLEY, who, it was alleged, was improperly made a Mason in a Lodge in the District of Columbia, while a resident of Newport, R. I., reported, that at the time Bro. LANGLEY was an actual resident of Washington and not of Newport, and:

"That Centennial Lodge has acted in the case in all particulars in accordance with Masonic usage.

The M.·. W.·. THOMAS A. DOYLE, Grand Master, reports having granted two dispensations for two new Lodges, and one permitting Pawcatuck Lodge, No. 90, on the registry of Connecticut, to hold its meetings in the village of Westerly, but without jurisdiction in Rhode Island; Pawcatuck, Connecticut, and Westerly, Rhode Island being in truth one village, and the hall jointly fitted up by Pawcatuck Lodge, Connecticut, and Franklin Lodge, Rhode Island, on the Connecticut side of the river, and which was to have been occupied by the two Lodges, by consent of the two Grand Lodges concerned, having been burned. The Grand Master also reports that he had, upon complaint in due form, and after trial by a committee, deposed and suspended the Master of one of the Lodges, which action was confirmed at the semi-annual communication. Charters were granted to the two Lodges working under dispensation.

There was no report on correspondence.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Charleston, November 17, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and six Lodges were represented.

In the absence of the Grand Master, we learn that the Grand Lodge was opened in *ample* (?) form by the Deputy Grand Master. How is that Bro. BRUNS?

The committee on grievances reported, that the accuser should have no right of appeal, which was sustained by the Grand Lodge. This ruling was supported by reference to the civil law, which fails to satisfy us; the object of Masonic trial is to elicit the truth, and if it is hidden by any mistake or false action of the particular Lodge, it should be corrected, no matter by whom it is brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge. We cannot see but that Lodges are as likely to err in acquitting as in convicting the accused. The civil law is based upon other considerations, which have no weight in a Masonic Lodge. The Grand Lodge, on report of a committee appointed the year before, declared lotteries a violation of the great principles of the order. Twelve charters were ordered to issue to new Lodges. The Grand Lodge also adopted a report in favor of "Masonic Mutual Life Insurance Companies, whose object is to insure the lives of Master Masons of good standing in their respective Lodges, without respect to age, &c." We fear evil from the introduction of this project, which seems to have become general in the southern states.

The report on correspondence was prepared by the Grand Secretary, Bro. R. S. BRUNS, and reviews the proceedings of twenty-three Grand Lodges, including ours. Bro. BRUNS stands almost if not quite alone in his approval of the temper of some parts of the report on foreign correspondence of Bro. BARRY, of Georgia, from which we quoted in a former report; probably even he will soon be ashamed of it. *Apropos* to the celebration of St. John's day, Bro. BRUNS says:

"The Grand Master suggests that this festival be abandoned altogether, and I approve of the suggestion. In fact, the time is not far off when Masonry will need to abandon St. John himself altogether; for what is the necessary connection between himself and Masonry? It is not easy to discover. Masonry may, indeed, recognize great and good men, patriots, patriarchs and prophets, as excellent models for study, but to adopt the representatives of any religion, specially in their religious or

sectarian character, is clearly in conflict with one of the most essential and absolutely saving landmarks of the fraternity from the beginning."

This is not a singular attempt to reduce Masonry to a mere Deism; as such attempts have failed in the past, so probably will they in the future. Masonry never was and is not now a system of religion, but everywhere it recognizes the religion of the country where it is established, provided it be based upon the worship of one God, but it is not Deism, the difference between which and Atheism is but a vanishing point. Of the rights of a brother under charges he says:

"As a general rule it must be remembered that neither God, nor society, nor social institutions of any kind ever confer rights, except upon conditions. The conditions involve the moral law in the case. If the conditions are not complied with, the individual forfeits his rights, has no rights, and until his own case is decided, is in a state of abeyance, as a criminal himself, and cannot become an accuser, still less one to sit in judgment upon any other accused."

Bro. BRUNS is a great stickler for the rights of parent Grand Lodges, and would refuse recognition to both Nova Scotia and West Virginia, because of the want of assent of the parent Grand Lodge. Will he be kind enough to inform us when and in what manner that consent was given to the formation of his own Grand Lodge. He thinks we need greater uniformity of laws and decisions, and suggests a work on Masonic jurisprudence; such a work would at present, and probably always, be more or less local, and would not acquire any universal authority; indeed, just now the tendency is to have such a work in each jurisdiction, and of course to perpetuate local views and usages.

T E N N E S S E E .

The fifty-fifth annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Nashville, October 5th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Two hundred and thirty-four chartered Lodges and twenty-four under dispensation were represented.

The M.·. W.·. JOSEPH M. ANDERSON, Grand Master, reports having granted twelve dispensations for new Lodges, and that he had suspended a Master of a Lodge for drunkenness.

Twenty-six charters were ordered to issue for Lodges under dispensation, and one new dispensation was ordered to issue, although the committee say of them:

"The committee farther recommends that charters be issued to the other Lodges before named, rather because they have been correctly and earnestly working under dispensations granted by the Grand Lodge at its last annual communication and by the Grand Master in the interim, than that the good of Masonry in this jurisdiction required their organization."

This want of reason ought never to be urged as cause for granting a charter, and the action of Tennessee requires the protest of all true Masons against such evident abuse of power.

The question was submitted to the committee on jurisprudence :

"Has a member of a subordinate Lodge a right to vote in the Lodge while he is under charges for unmasonic conduct?"

The majority of the committee say no, but the minority :

"He has. He is entitled to the presumption of innocence until proven guilty."

Which last was adopted by the Grand Lodge.

This Grand Lodge has a fashion of holding what it calls a Lodge of Sorrow; we wish somebody would tell us what they are? and what they have to do with Masonry? and what authority a Grand Lodge of Blue Masons has to institute them? They seem to us an attempt to borrow something from the quasi deistic neologisms which hang upon the skirts of the Grand Orient of France.

The report on foreign correspondence was from the pen of Bro. GEORGE S. BLACKIE, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Lodges, including ours. Of the prevalent desire to compel affiliation he says :

"We wish we could establish some such plan, and that the unaffiliated would agree to it. But it is useless to talk of such matters as long as trivial or party prejudices lead brethren to reject any candidates for affiliation in any Lodge. We have heard that such is the case in our jurisdiction, and we warn those guilty of such practices, that however "bright" they may be, they are not true Masons—they hit the power of the craft a cowardly blow in the dark, and should themselves be tried for anti-masonic conduct. The liberty of the ballot is not questioned, but such views are no matters to affect it. The very fact of a brother desiring affiliation is in his favor, and should be so regarded. Such a compulsion, however, as is recommended, would be an infringement on the rights of Lodges and the constitution."

Bro. BLACKIE thinks we ought to discipline deserters from the army, because, as he says, they forfeit their honor, and break their oath. We think he is wrong, and such has been the almost universal decision. He unhesitatingly answers no, to the making by affirmation.

TEXAS.

This Grand Lodge assembled in its thirty-second annual communication at Houston, June 8th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and fifty-two Lodges were represented.

The M.·. W.·. JOHN R. FRETWELL, Grand Master, reports that he had not issued a single dispensation for a new Lodge for the year, although quite a number of petitions had been presented to him. The Deputy Grand Master, however, reports that he had granted three and extended one.

Eleven charters were ordered to issue to Lodges under dispensation, two dispensations continued, and three new dispensations granted; so we think the Craft there are not likely to suffer from the refusal of the Grand Master. The committee on jurisprudence thus reported on unaffiliates :

"Your committee on Masonic jurisprudence ask leave to report that we have examined the inquiries referred to us as to what the rights of a dimitted Mason are; and, in reply, say that a dimitted Mason has no rights. He is not entitled to charity or any of the rights and privileges of a contributing member. His position is fully and clearly defined by our constitution, article V., chapter 5, sections 1, 20, 21. In answer to the question, "Should not all unaffiliated Masons be required to pay, at least, the sum of one dollar annually to the Grand Lodge fund?" we say this Grand Lodge has not the power to levy such a tax, even if disposed so to do."

But no action was taken upon it by the Grand Lodge.

The report on correspondence was presented by Bro. W. B. BOTTs, and reviews the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire. California had decided, as we think correctly, that a Master cannot refuse admission to a member of his Lodge; the Texas committee seem to doubt it :

"From some of the results of this decision, we beg leave to differ with the committee. It is the duty of the Master to govern his Lodge with regularity, and preserve its harmony. For this he alone is responsible, and it is reiterated at every meeting that peace and harmony must prevail. The Master being thus responsible for the preservation of harmony in his Lodge, we think it not only his right, *but his duty*, to prevent anything calculated to interrupt this. For this purpose, we believe that he has the right to deny admission to any brother, if he has good reason to believe that such brother will interrupt the harmony, or be the means of destroying the good feeling so necessary in all well-governed Lodges."

They think the West Virginia Lodges should have paid up their dues before forming a new Grand Lodge. We do not see that it was essential for them to do it before taking that action.

The Grand Lodge of Hamburg had claimed a correspondence with that of Texas; the committee say:

"We hold no correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and desire to hold none. Neither will we recognize any of her subjects until she has properly recognized the rights of our sister Grand Lodge of New York. If one of our reports, or circulars, found their way through the mail to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, it was the result of accident and not design. We take our stand in this matter with the other Grand Lodges of the United States."

V E R M O N T .

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at St. Johnsbury, June 10th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Seventy-four chartered Lodges and seven under dispensation were represented.

The M.·. W.·. LEVERETT B. ENGLESBY, Grand Master, reports having granted eleven dispensations for new Lodges; that in one or two instances he had allowed a reconsideration of the ballot, which he admits to be wrong, and promises if entrusted with the power, he never would do it again. We do not believe that any earthly power *can* entrust him with that authority.

A resolution was adopted providing for schools of instruction in each district, to be called by the District Deputy Grand Master.

Eleven charters were ordered to issue to Lodges under dispensation and two new dispensations granted. Our brethren across the river are troubled about the work, largely arising from their old boast that they had the original simon-pure Jacobs; and a long protest from the former Grand Lecturer SAMUEL WILSON, is appended to the proceedings. Bro. WILSON ought to know that there is no authority for any lectures but the order of the Grand Lodge, which has the authority to change them even to the extent the Grand Lodge of England did, in adopting the Hemming work and lectures.

The report on correspondence is from the able pen of the Grand Secretary Bro. HENRY CLARK, and reviews the proceedings of *six* Grand Lodges, one of them New Hampshire. We fully assent to the following:

"That no profane person has any *rights* in Masonry. The election of an applicant merely invests him with the *privilege* of being admitted into the fraternity—which privilege, for good cause, can be withheld."

The above is the right view of the case, and the fraternity would be far better off

should Masters follow it strictly, for oftentimes they initiate applicants because the Lodges have so voted, when from their own knowledge it will be detrimental to the interests of Masonry, and their own Lodge in particular."

And the following :

" We commend, as eminently correct, and should be a universal regulation among Masonic Lodges, the decision of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, that is quoted by our Wisconsin brethren, that :

' A person who is engaged in any business or occupation which is forbidden, and against the exercise of which penalties are denounced by any law of this State, or of the United States, cannot be made a Mason.'

We would go further and require that charges be preferred against a brother who is already a Mason, and enters into any traffic forbidden by the laws of the State or United States."

We wish Bro. CLARK would give us the statistics of his Lodges ; it would greatly assist in preparing our table.

VIRGINIA.

This Grand Lodge assembled in annual communication at Richmond, December 14th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and two Lodges were represented.

The M.: W.: WILLIAM TERRY, Grand Master, reports having granted fourteen dispensations for new Lodges. He thus discourses on the qualifications of candidates :

" It is not enough that you do not know anything against the candidate, but you must know enough of him to satisfy you that he is every way qualified and worthy of the honor you propose to confer. It is easy to prevent the admission of an unworthy candidate, but once admitted, a great deal of trouble may be given and much injury done. The admission of the unworthy is to us

' The direful spring
Of woes unnumbered.'

And what are the qualifications of candidates ?

1st. Their circumstances :

According to the ancient charges, the candidate must be " of limbs whole, as a man ought to be." In the language of our own Grand Lodge, not " so maimed that they cannot conform to the ritual," and capable of " pursuing their worldly avocations" if " necessitated so to do;" thus clearly contemplating a conformity to " law and usage," and guarding against the admission of persons, who, in all reasonable probability, would become a burden to the fraternity. Masons should be charitable, but their obligations neither require them to assume the peculiar and responsible relation of Masons to these charitable objects, nor indeed, are they permitted.

2d. Their connections :

According to the ancient charges, the candidate must be " no bastard"—he must be " free-born, of good kindred, true and no bondsman;" and agreeably to the regulations of the general assembly of 1663, the candidate must be " of able body, honest

parentage, good reputation and an observer of the laws of the land." It thus appears that it is not alone sufficient that the candidate should be personally unexceptionable; his connections must be such as will not bring reproach upon the fraternity. When we admit a person into our order, we assume certain relations, not only to the initiate, but to certain of his kindred, and it is evidently not only proper, but even required that this kindred should be such as we are willing to assume these responsible relations to, but feel justified in imposing them upon others.

3d. Moral qualifications:

While I urge the brethren to give strict attention to the moral qualifications of candidates, yet I will not, in this paper, undertake to discuss this branch of the subject, as it opens too wide a field for the limits I have prescribed to myself.

4th. The intellectual endowments:

A candidate must not only possess the requisites of "circumstances," "connections," and "moral qualifications," but he must be possessed of sufficient mental capacity to enable him clearly to understand and discharge the "functions and duties" devolving upon him in this relation; he must have such mental culture that he "be capable of reading, that he may enrich his mind; of writing, that he may communicate his thoughts to others," and for a more comprehensive view of these matters, I would call the attention of brethren to pages 84 and 232 of our Text Book, edition 1866. A proper observance of these requirements and discharge of our duty in the premises would preserve for honor and usefulness our ancient and honorable order; but a neglect of them brings its fruits in the shameful conduct of many who have gained admittance among us."

Thirteen charters were ordered to issue to Lodges under dispensation and two dispensations continued.

The most important business of the communication, was the amicable adjustment of all difficulties with the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, by the adoption of the following:

"The committee appointed to confer with the commissioners from the Grand Lodge of West Virginia to this Grand Lodge, in reference to the differences existing between these Grand Bodies, beg leave to report that they have had a full and free conference with said commissioners, and take great pleasure in stating that the spirit manifested by the Grand Lodge of West Virginia toward this Grand Lodge is fully appreciated by your committee; and while it is a source of deep regret, that circumstances have occurred which, in the opinion of our brethren of West Virginia, justified them in forming a Grand Lodge, yet, in the spirit of fraternal feeling, and with an ardent desire to cultivate peace and harmony with all Grand Bodies, we are willing to recognize the Grand Lodge of West Virginia as a legally constituted body upon their complying with the conditions heretofore prescribed by this Grand Lodge; and the said commissioners being present and having satisfied this Grand Lodge that the Grand Lodge of West Virginia has fully complied with the conditions aforesaid, or is now ready and willing to comply with the same; be it therefore

1st. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge hereby recognizes the said Grand Lodge of West Virginia, and extends to her our fraternal and Masonic recognition, and cordially recommend her to all other Grand Masonic Bodies in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

2d. *Resolved*, That the political boundaries of a State being definitely given and decided upon, fixes the Masonic jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of that State, except in so far as rights may have vested under charters theretofore lawfully issued.

3d. *Resolved*, That the political status of the counties of Jefferson and Berkeley, being at this time undetermined, the Grand Lodge of Virginia will for the present retain her jurisdiction over such Lodges in said counties as desire to report to this Grand Lodge; but will authorize the opening of no new Lodge in either of said counties until their status is definitely settled, it being understood that the Grand Lodge of West Virginia shall on their part be subject to the like restrictions.

4th. That inasmuch as the original charters which emanated from this Grand Lodge to the subordinate Lodges in West Virginia, have been formally surrendered to this Grand Lodge, but the said subordinate Lodges having earnestly asked that they may be returned to them to be laid up in their archives as mementos of the past; therefore,

Resolved, That the said subordinate Lodges be permitted to retain the said old charters.

5th. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge recommend to all of its subordinate Lodges in the territorial limits of West Virginia, to surrender their present charters to, and ask new charters from, the Grand Lodge of West Virginia."

We congratulate our brethren of both jurisdictions upon the happy settlement of this affair, and in doing so desire to bear witness especially to the uniform good temper and true Masonic spirit manifested on both sides, in a matter so likely to have engendered heated discussion. Our brethren of both jurisdictions have done honor to the craft as well as to themselves by their conduct of this delicate matter.

There was no report on correspondence, but the Grand Secretary acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of forty-three Grand Bodies, including New Hampshire.

We wish Bro. Dove would fix up his statistics for the information of his brethren.

W A S H I N G T O N .

The eleventh annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Olympia, September 17, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Ten chartered Lodges, and one under dispensation, were represented.

The M.·. W.·. JAMES BILES, Grand Master, reported having granted two dispensations for new Lodges, one of them for Alaska Lodge, at Sitka, Alaska Territory.

A charter was granted to Blue Mountain Lodge, and the dispensation of Alaska Lodge continued.

A report on correspondence was submitted and read, and the Grand Secretary authorized to print such part as he might deem advisable. Upon which he says :

"The Grand Secretary (being the chairman of the committee on foreign correspondence) "deems it advisable," in view of the "situation," not to "push things" at the present, gladly awaiting a more favorable exhibit of the credit side of our balance sheet before incurring the heavy expense of printing a long report, much of which doubtless would be "dead weight" and of doubtful expediency or value to the Grand Lodge."

He acknowledges the receipt of proceedings from thirty-four Grand Lodges, including ours, and recommends that the Grand Lodges of Idaho and New Brunswick, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of British Columbia on the Scottish Register be recognized. This last Grand Lodge was organized December 24th, 5867, at Victoria. R.: W.: J. W. POWELL, M. D., Victoria, Provincial Grand Master.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The fourth annual communication of this Grand Lodge assembled at Wheeling, November 10th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. Twenty-four Lodges were represented.

The M.: W.: WILLIAM J. BATES, Grand Master, reports having granted six dispensations for new Lodges. He also calls attention to the relations with Virginia which a few weeks later were so harmoniously arranged.

The following report was received and adopted:

"The grand committee, to which was referred the proposed amendment to the general regulations, providing for the appointment of a committee to examine into and report upon the character of candidates, would respectfully report, that in their judgment, it is not expedient to make such amendment.

Under the existing regulations, it is the duty of every brother to inquire for himself, in regard to the character of those seeking admission to our institution; and no regulation should be adopted which would seem to teach that this duty and responsibility may be transferred from the individual Mason to a committee."

Four charters were granted to Lodges under dispensation, and commissioners appointed to visit the Grand Lodge of Virginia to arrange all matters in controversy.

The report on correspondence presented by Bro. T. H. LOGAN, reviews the proceedings of thirty-four domestic and four foreign Grand Bodies. Of the inclination to pry into the secret ballot he says:

"It happens, too frequently, that we are more jealous of what we call the rights of a profane friend, than we are of the rights of the brethren. We should be careful

not to incur obligations to a friend not a Mason, which would embarrass us in our relations with those who are more than friends. Don't ask your friend to "join the Masons." Don't tell him that he "ought to be a Mason." If he moves in that direction let him be able to say, truthfully, that it is of his own free will and accord. Above all, do not, by any act or word of yours, convey to him the impression that you are to act as his champion, and that possibly he has enemies in the Lodge. There is a wonderful amount of unmasonic opinion and feeling prevalent among Masons upon these subjects. We think that about the most important lesson to be taught the young Mason, in these days, is that he is not to regard himself as a Masonic missionary ; that he is not to go out into the lanes and streets and bring in the "lame and the halt and the blind," thinking that because they are his friends, the door of the Lodge must open to them as it did to him."

We also quote the following with approbation :

" The remarks of Bro. SANDERS in regard to politics in Montana gives us the opportunity to make a statement which will, we trust, correct impressions which seem to exist in certain quarters, in regard to our own Grand Lodge. Its organization has been regarded by a few as a political movement. There is no foundation for such an opinion, outside of the act of congress constituting the State of West Virginia. We can say (and our opportunities for knowing the facts have been ample), that political questions and prejudices have never presented themselves in our Grand Lodge. In the first board of Grand Officers, elected in 1865, both sections in political opinion and sympathy of our then distracted country were represented. Since then, as in Montana, both armies have been represented, not only in the membership, but in the Grand Lodge, and in the board of Grand Officers. Nor was this state of facts the result of special arrangement or deliberation in any case. Masonic considerations, swayed only by fraternal good will and affection, have ever been paramount. As a result, although representing outside of the Lodge all shades of political opinion,—inside, as brethren, we "dwell together in unity."

Our proceedings do not seem to have reached the committee.

WISCONSIN.

This Grand Lodge assembled in its twenty-fifth annual communication at Milwaukee, June 9th, A. L. 5868, A. D. 1868. One hundred and thirty-eight chartered Lodges and three under dispensation were represented.

The M.·. W.·. HARLOW PEASE, Grand Master, reports having granted three dispensations for new Lodges. He also calls attention to the continued annual deficit in the finances, and recommends retrenchment in the cost of Grand Lecturers and in printing ; if they would omit the worse than needless printing the names of all the members, they would help the matter a great deal.

Four charters were ordered to issue to Lodges under dispensation. The report on correspondence was from the pen of Bro. GABE BOUCK, and acknowledges the receipt of proceedings of forty Grand Lodges, including New Hampshire, but does not review, but in thirteen pages he attempts to give the substance of what he regards as interesting. He spends three of his pages on the question of the advancement of maims, and comes to the conclusion that they should be advanced. A resolution submitted by the committee to that effect was sent to the committee on jurisprudence, to report next year. He thinks we are growing too fast; he says :

" And we are fearful that if our brethren in that, and some other jurisdictions, continue for a few years longer to increase so rapidly, they will find themselves in that lamentable position so forcibly expressed by the two following simple words, viz: ' Powerful weak. '

" We are of opinion that the present form of petition is inadequate ; it might embrace much information which the applicant should be compelled to disclose in his petition, and which would form a groundwork upon which the committee could make a more thorough investigation. If the petition should give the place of residence, or residences, of the applicant for some years previous to the application ; his occupation, or occupations, during that time, it would be the means of affording valuable assistance to the committee in their investigation. A history of the applicant's life, both as to residence and occupation for some years, would, upon its face, afford some light as to his character — whether he was a man fixed and stable in his purposes, or fickle and uncertain. One of the great difficulties that a committee now encounter is to find any substantial information upon which to make any report, and are compelled, when interrogated, to admit that they could find nothing particularly in favor of or against the petition."

Of the trial of Masters and the Indiana new lights :

" We do not propose to discuss the question as to the right of a Grand Lodge to change this ancient law ; but in a fraternal spirit, and with candor, we would suggest to our generous brethren of the jurisdiction of Indiana, whether it is proper or in good taste, for a Grand Lodge to change a long-established law, without the approval of, or consulting with any other of the Grand Lodges.

And we would respectfully suggest, if it would not be the better rule, if any Grand Lodge is of the opinion that any rule or law (not a landmark), which has been long in force among the craft, should be amended or changed, not to take the responsibility upon itself to repeal or change the same, but to call the matter to the attention of the several Grand Lodges, get a general expression of opinion from all, and if such repeal or change is pretty generally recommended, then go on and do it, but if the opinion is generally unfavorable, then abandon it; sacrifice your own opinion and judgment to that of the general wishes of the craft."

CONCLUSION.

Several Grand Lodges, through their committees of correspondence, have criticised the action of our Grand Lodge on the subject of the Great Falls printed books. It is of course too late for us now to change the action which has been taken, yet we may well consider whether we have proceeded correctly, that in future we may avoid the errors of the past; not that we are likely to have the same case again, but the general question of discipline seems to be included. One Grand Lodge approves our course, while eight condemn, generally in pretty pointed language. That the offence was one which would have justified the Grand Lodge in revoking the charter of Libanus Lodge and expelling those brethren immediately concerned, is, no doubt true, but the view of the committee who had that subject in charge, and no doubt of the Grand Lodge, was, that the only true ends of Masonic punishments are: to reform the offender, and to protect the craft from the then offender, or others in like case. It is true every Mason must know that such books are a direct violation of Masonic obligations; but no more so than written ones, which have been used, at least, ever since the Prestonian lectures were invented (about a century), and probably before, as we learn that when Anderson first published his Constitutions, many brethren committed manuscripts to the flames in their zeal against so much printing of the nature and character of the fraternity. Let that be as it may, in this country the Preston-Webb lectures have always been communicated and preserved in written books. ROB MORRIS printed a compilation of such, the celebrated Mnemonics of the Conservators, which is now used, printed books and all, by several Grand Lodges. We did not, therefore, deem the plea of ignorance to be entirely objectionable, nor the guilt of the brothers so entirely without extenuation, as some committees on foreign correspondence would seem to regard it. We were also satisfied that the brothers chiefly concerned were convinced of their error, and would not be liable to be caught committing the like offense again. In the same manner, we were satisfied that the course recommended and adopted would preserve the craft as effectually as any that could be taken, both from the injury already effected and from any future attempt of like character. We therefore deemed that all legitimate ends of punishment were attained. We believe that those

books, some copies of which the Grand Lodge did not get hold of, are effectually suppressed, and we are in no danger from that source, or from any liability to further injury from the same direction. The writer of this report, who was also on the committee who examined the Great Falls matter, thinks the Grand Lodge should have gone farther in one direction and included written books with the printed ones. This, however, the Grand Lodge refused to do, and is supported therein by the actual practice of the craft everywhere, probably from the earliest times. Upon reflection, therefore, we fail to see any legitimate object which is not attained by the course pursued.

Among the subjects mooted in the craft, the negro question seems to have met with a lull, but indications exist that it is to be revived with more intensity than ever. We regard it as indisputable that it is an utter overthrow of the foundation on which Masonry is built, to deny to the colored man admission to the craft by any general law on account of his race or color only, he being otherwise liable to no objection. If any individual brother chooses to exercise his veto at the ballot box, his motives are between him and his God alone. It is clear also, that no Lodge is bound to receive any visitor whose sitting in the Lodge would bring discord into the Lodge. So much for the question as it relates to the negro in regular and legitimate Lodges.

There is, as is well known, an extensive organization, perhaps more than one, of colored men claiming to be Masons, which has always been declared clandestine by all legitimate Grand Lodges on this continent. The members of these Lodges we have refused to recognize, not because of their color but on account of their clandestine making. Facts are coming to light which tend to show that the true history of these Lodges has not been told. They are said to derive their authority from the charter of the Grand Lodge of England to African Lodge; it has been said that this was in violation of the jurisdictional rights of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. The American doctrine of Grand Lodge jurisdiction has grown up since then, and is not elsewhere fully received even now; besides, there was then no Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, or in that State, whose rights could be interfered with; for notwithstanding the claim to antiquity of that Grand Lodge, it was not formed till 1792, and the two Provincial Grand Lodges

before existing in that colony both expired in 1775, by the death of their Provincial Grand Masters. The Massachusetts Grand Lodge did not pretend to meet after the death of WARREN, and although St. John's Grand Lodge did have some sort of meetings, probably no law that has ever existed in Masonry anywhere would hold such meetings regular. It has been also said that the original warrant of African Lodge was returned to England and the Lodge revived with a copy of it; this has been shown to be an error, the warrant never was returned, and is now in possession of the so-called negro Masons. Other questions relating to these Lodges are mooted, but as we are likely soon to have many more facts from the investigations of committees in Georgia and Massachusetts, we are inclined to reserve any farther views we may have until next year. In the meanwhile, we have seen nothing yet to cast any doubt over the correctness of the decision that these organizations are spurious and clandestine.

The Grand Lodge of Louisiana seems to be threatened with trouble from the actions of a body claiming to be a Supreme Council of the A.: and A.: Scotch rite. Of its regularity, as such, of course we can know nothing. It has been declared spurious by a Balustre of the Sovereign Commanders of the Supreme Councils, at Charleston and Boston, but we know (as Master Masons) as little whether these latter bodies are genuine, nor need we care so long as they do not interfere in symbolic Masonry. This Council at New Orleans has attempted to create Lodges of the first three degrees in Louisiana; now *we do know* that no Council or other body or individual of that rite *under any circumstances whatever*, has the right in the United States, or anywhere else where a Grand Lodge exists, to create any such Lodges; and should any Supreme Council attempt to do anything of the kind, every Mason who adheres to such Council should be expelled from Masonry at once, without any parley; and if there be any legitimate Masons in Louisiana who adhere to this Council, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana owe it as a duty to the craft, to see that they are cut off at once and without mercy. This body has also been attempting some kind of fraternization with the spurious negro Grand Lodge in Louisiana, and has in some way engaged the Grand Orient of France to give it some recognition. We trust the Grand Orient will retract any such unadvised and illegal

action, so far as it relates to symbolic Masonry. As to what it may do with the so-called High Grades part of it, we are not interested. All the Grand Lodges have common interest with that of Louisiana, in both the establishment of Lodges by this Council, and the recognition of spurious and clandestine Masons.

The subject of advancement of maims, and what shall be done with unaffiliated Masons, are still discussed, but seem to come no nearer a conclusion.

Peace and prosperity seem to be the lot of the craft everywhere. In fact, the multiplication of Lodges and the increase of Masons is almost too great for belief; yet it is believed that greater and more careful scrutiny is given to candidates than ever before; still in the great crowd who now approach the portals of our Lodges, many unworthy must probably be received. It therefore behooves us to redouble our diligence to stop as many unworthy as possible.

JOHN J. BELL, *for the Committee.*

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Grand Lodge.	Communication.	Members	Admitts	Dismiss	Transfers	Deaths	Expenses	Recects	Grand Master.	Address.	Grand Secretary.	Address.
Alabama	December	7, 586	222	10, 323	636	601	856	260	759	30	George D. Norris	Newmarket
Arkansas	November	16, 586	220	7, 676	677	429	441	258	152	23	Elbert H. English	Little Rock
California	October	13, 586	15	8, 106	817	467	626	238	196	7	Charles Marsh	San Francisco
Canada	July	8, 586	145	8, 022	1243	300	518	165	159	76	Alex. A. Stevenson	Montreal
Columbia, Dist.	November	3, 586	18	2, 380	225	56	105	92	167	10	R. D. Donaldson	Washington
Connecticut	May	18, 586	89	11, 357	1000	96	202	411	9	William Storer	West Hartford	
Delaware	June	27, 586	18	9, 222	92	13	20	27	8	E. J. Horrocks	Wilmington	
Florida	January	13, 586	49	1, 783	234	113	145	90	9	De Witt C. Dawkins	Jacksonville	
Georgia	October	27, 586	207	15, 555	894	717	387	207	257	47	Samuel Lawrence	Marietta
Idaho	June	22, 586	6	225	54	35	27	66	4	George H. Coe	Idaho City	
Illinois	October	6, 586	572	30, 229	3671	1046	1841	1046	81	Harmon G. Reynolds	Springfield	
Indiana	May	26, 586	385	20, 133	2285	789	1624	1624	341	Martin H. Rice	Plymouth	
Iowa	June	2, 586	214	9, 774	1467	486	627	627	395	96	Reuben Mikel	Iowa City
Kansas	October	28, 586	71	2, 645	435	201	157	157	95	John H. Brown	Leavenworth	
Kentucky	October	19, 586	326	18, 972	2070	2070	361	361	556	53	John H. Brown	Louisville
Louisiana	February	10, 586	131	6, 711	767	767	193	193	193	2	Elisha S. Fitch	Flemingsburg
Maine	May	5, 586	147	13, 001	1672	1325	371	733	8	Henry R. Swasey	New Orleans	
Maryland	November	16, 586	65	4, 909	458	136	136	136	21	10	Timothy J. Murray	Portland
Massachusetts	December	9, 586	176	18, 367	18, 367	18, 367	18, 367	18, 367	21	10	John Coates	Baltimore
Michigan	January	12, 586	251	18, 016	2357	2357	882	882	1670	226	John S. Gardner	Boston
Minnesota	January	20, 586	71	2, 645	435	201	157	157	95	131	A. T. Metcalf	Kalamazoo
Mississippi	January	20, 586	261	8, 378	882	625	911	911	1804	18	C. W. Nash	St. Paul
Missouri	October	12, 586	201	14, 817	1825	1218	912	884	140	172	Thomas S. Gathright	Jackson
Nebraska	June	24, 586	20	714	177	51	52	52	63	5	John D. Vincil	St. Louis
Nebraska	September	15, 586	12	921	145	144	73	91	19	1	Orsemus W. Irish	Plattsburgh
New Brunswick	September	23, 586	24	1, 312	145	145	145	145	12	George W. Hopkins	Nebraska City	
New Jersey	January	22, 586	90	6, 801	855	1408	194	194	12	John D. Caldwell	Virginia	
New York	June	21, 586	635	70, 323	855	292	292	292	23	3	Stephen R. St. John	Halifax
North Carolina	December	1, 586	21	9, 893	539	199	19	4	2	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati	
Nova Scotia	June	-24, 586	23	752	19	4	2	2	2	3	Howard Mathews	Portland
Ohio	October	20, 586	32	123	164	78	62	64	85	4	Eugene City	John E. Harford
Oregon	June	22, 586	32	26, 140	3081	589	838	838	358*	4	Richard Vaux	Philadelphia
Pennsylvania	December	25, 586	238	26, 140	411	16	40	211	1	288	Thomas A. Doyle	Providence
Rhode Island	November	18, 586	24	3, 004	411	52	52	52	1	3	Charles D. Greene	Charleston
South Carolina	December	17, 586	132	1, 304	411	16	40	211	1	3	R. S. Bruns	Nashville
Tennessee	October	5, 586	301	16, 996	2660	666	1150	1150	289	70	James Conner	Charleston
Texas	June	8, 586	275	10, 388	87	10	10	10	10	10	John F. Frazee	Houston
Vermont	December	14, 586	34	1, 590	307	12	32	20	21	3	Peter W. Gray	Burlington
Virginia	September	17, 586	11	348	38	12	32	20	21	3	George M. Hall	Richmond
Washington	November	16, 586	34	1, 590	307	59	87	97	33	1	William J. Bailes	Port Madison
West Virginia	November	5, 586	132	1284	385	504	504	504	63	3	Thomas M. Reed	Olympia
Wisconsin	June	3, 586	132	7, 713	1284	385	504	504	63	3	Wm. T. Palmer	Watertown

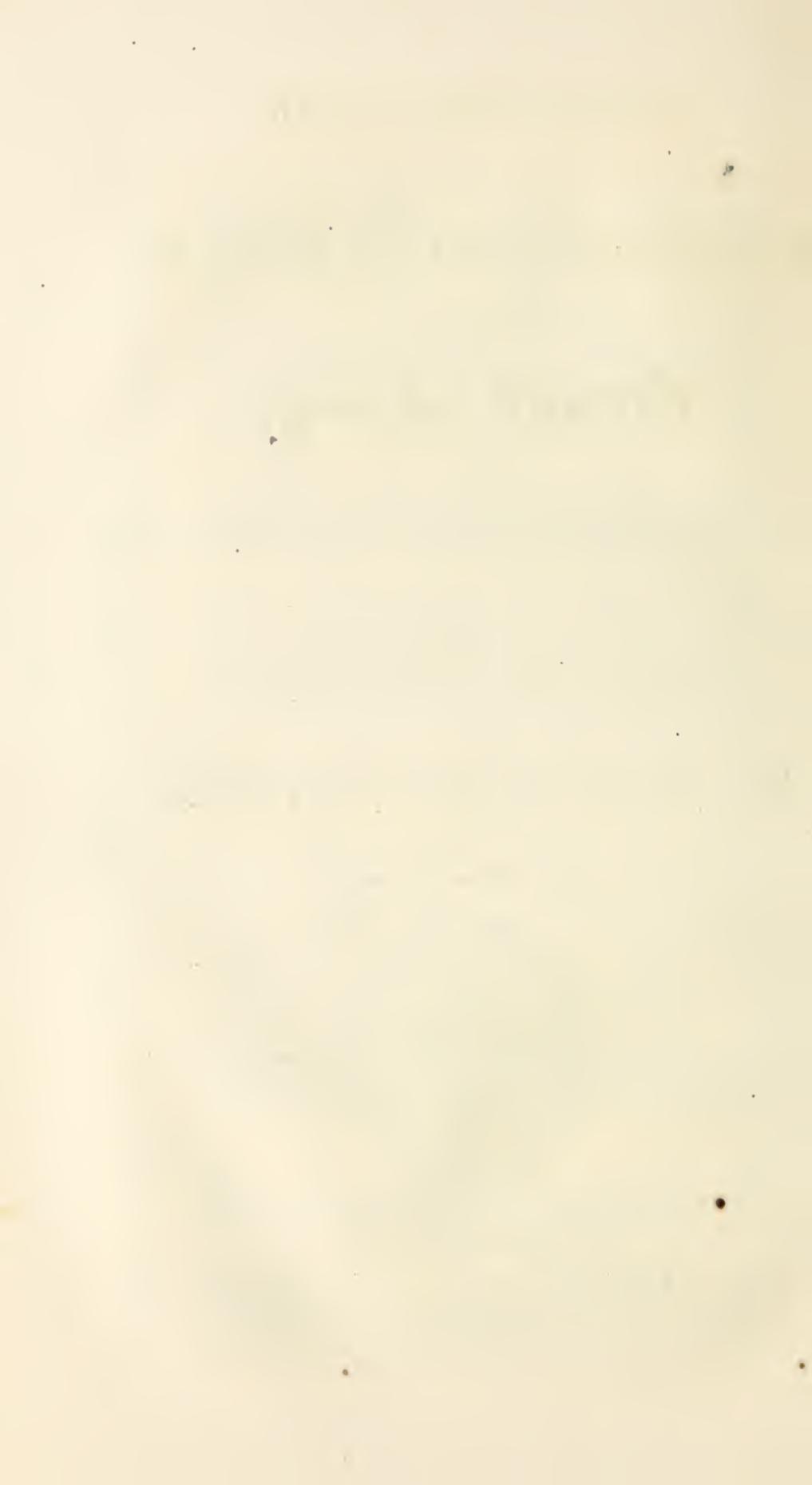
* Suspensions and expulsions are footed up together.

CONSTITUTION
AND
GENERAL REGULATIONS
OF THE
Grand Lodge
OF
THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY
OF
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Adopted June 10th, A. L. 5809.



MANCHESTER, N.H. :
PRINTED BY C. F. LIVINGSTON.
1869.



INTRODUCTION.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in June, A. L. 5867, numerous amendments to the Constitution having been proposed, which seemed to indicate a desire and necessity for a thorough revision of that instrument, the following resolution was moved by the then Deputy Grand Master, M. W. ALEXANDER M. WINN, and was adopted :

“Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to revise the Grand Constitution and General Regulations of this Grand Lodge, and report at the next Semi-Annual Communication ; and that all amendments now pending, or that may be proposed at this Communication, be referred to said Committee.”

Bros. JOHN J. BELL, JOHN A. HARRIS and WILLIAM BARRETT were appointed the Committee for that purpose.

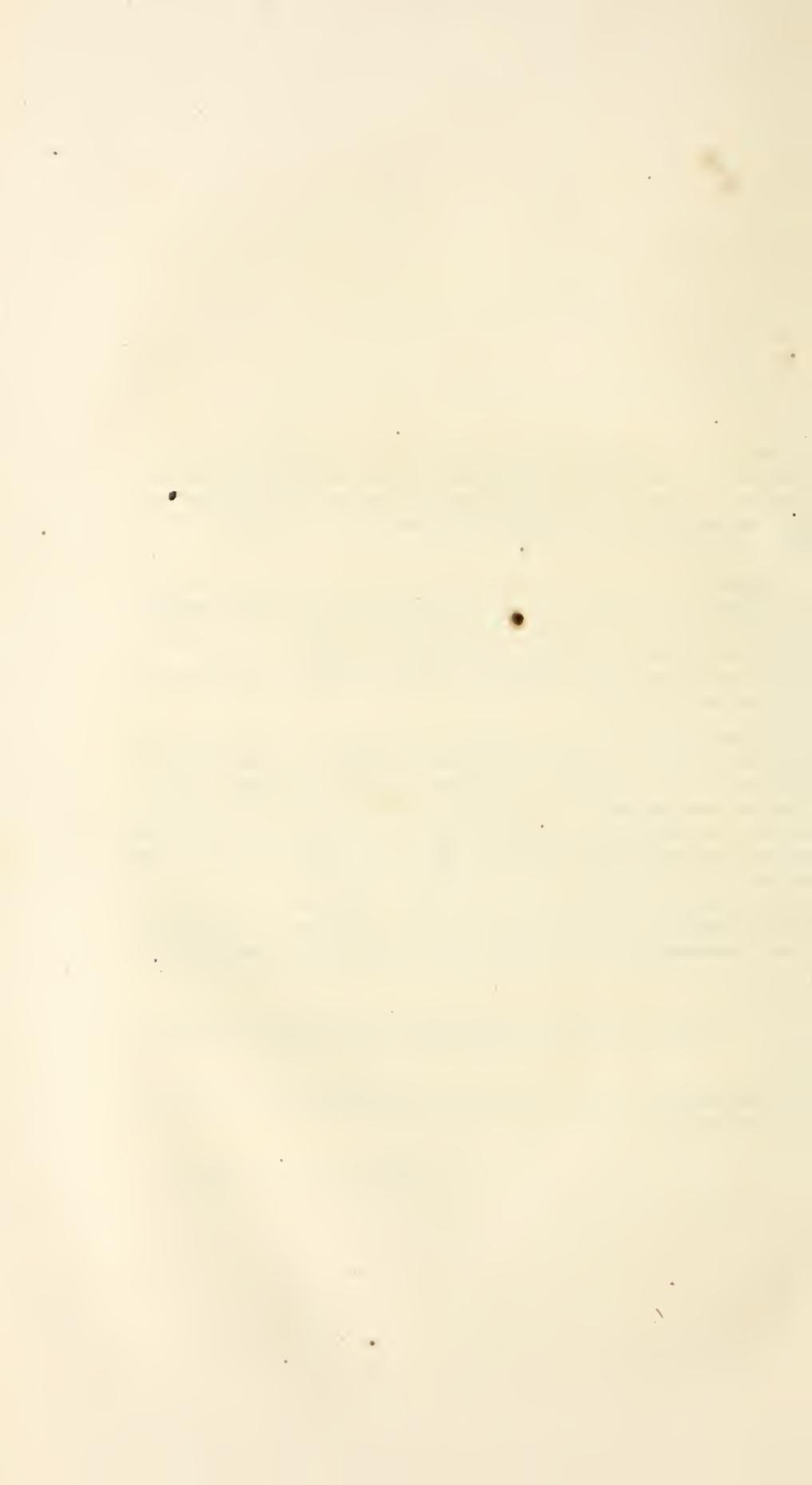
No report was made at the Semi-Annual Communication, but at the Annual Communication in June, A. L. 5868, the Committee submitted their report in print, which was read and copies thereof distributed to the members present. The consideration of the proposed new Constitution was postponed to the Annual Communication, A. L. 5869, and made the special order for 10 o'clock A. M., of the second day of the session, at which time it was taken up and carefully considered, such amendments made thereto as seemed to be required, and finally adopted.

By a subsequent resolution, the undersigned was appointed a Committee to procure the printing and distribution to the Lodges of a sufficient number of copies of the Constitution, and was also requested to prepare forms and directions for the use of the Lodges under the new Constitution, to be printed as an appendix to the Constitution.

I have endeavored, in pursuance of that request, to prepare such forms and directions as are necessary to the proper discharge of the duties required by the Constitution.

An index has also been prepared, which, it is hoped, will render all parts of the Constitution readily accessible to all.

JOHN J. BELL, *Committee.*



CONSTITUTION.

PART I.

OF THE GRAND LODGE.

ARTICLE I.

- I. Style and Title.
- II. Officers and Members, their style and title.
- III. Communications.
- IV. Powers of the Grand Lodge.
- V. Qualification, Election and Installation of Officers.
- VI. Powers and Duties of Grand Officers.
- VII. Stations, Jewels and Clothing.

ARTICLE I.

STYLE AND TITLE.

SECTION 1. The style and title of the Grand Lodge is: "THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE."

ARTICLE II.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS, THEIR STYLE AND TITLE.

SECTION—

- 2. Grand Lodge, how constituted.
- 3. Officers, their style and title.
- 4. Appointment of Proxies.

SECTION—

- 5. Qualification of Members.
- 6. Master or Warden not to be Representative.

SECTION 2. The Grand Lodge consists of its Officers, and the Worshipful Masters and Wardens, for the time being, of the several subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, or their legally

appointed Proxies, and one Representative of each Lodge, to be elected by its members; together with all Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Wardens and Past District Deputy Grand Masters, while they retain their allegiance to this Grand Lodge.

SECTION 3. The Officers of the Grand Lodge are, in addition to the Grand Master, whose style is Most Worshipful:

- a Deputy Grand Master,
- a Senior Grand Warden,
- a Junior Grand Warden,
- a District Deputy Grand Master in each District,
- a Grand Treasurer,
- a Grand Secretary,
- a Grand Lecturer in each District,
- two Grand Chaplains, whose style is Right Worshipful;
- a Senior Grand Deacon,
- a Junior Grand Deacon,
- a Grand Marshal,
- four Grand Stewards,
- a Grand Sword Bearer,
- two Grand Pursuivants, whose style is Worshipful;
- a Grand Tyler, who is not entitled to any vote in the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 4. The appointment of the Proxy of the Master or Warden of a particular Lodge to represent him in Grand Lodge shall be in writing, signed by the Principal, and shall designate at what Communication of the Grand Lodge the Proxy shall act, and shall be for one Communication only, and shall be void if the Principal appear in person.

SECTION 5. All Officers and members of the Grand Lodge must be Master Masons, holding allegiance to this Grand Lodge. Representatives of particular Lodges must be members of the Lodges they respectively represent.

SECTION 6. No Master or Warden of a particular Lodge can be chosen the Representative of said Lodge in the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE III.

COMMUNICATIONS.

SECTION—

- 7. Annual.
- 8. Semi-Annual.
- 9. No Business at Semi-Annual.

SECTION—

- 10. If St. John Evangelist fall on Saturday, Sunday or Monday.
- 11. Special.

SECTION 7. The Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge shall be holden in Concord on the third Wednesday of May, at 11 o'clock A. M.

SECTION 8. The Semi-Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be holden on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, at such place as the Grand Lodge shall at the Annual Communication direct. If the Grand Lodge shall give no direction, the Semi-Annual Communication shall be holden at Manchester, at 11 o'clock A. M.

SECTION 9. At the Semi-Annual Communication no business shall be transacted but the Exemplification of the Work and Lectures.

SECTION 10. If the Festival of St. John the Evangelist shall fall upon Saturday, Sunday or Monday, the Semi-Annual Communication shall be held on the Tuesday following.

SECTION 11. Special Communications may be called as the Grand Lodge or Grand Master may direct.

ARTICLE IV.

POWERS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

SECTION 12. The Grand Lodge, by the ancient Constitutions and usages of the Fraternity, is invested with certain original and essential powers and privileges belonging to the ancient Craft, and shall have power especially—

First.—To enact and enforce all Laws and Regulations for the government of the Fraternity, and to alter, amend and repeal the same at pleasure.

Second.—To constitute new Lodges, by granting Dispensations and Warrants under seal; and for good cause, to suspend, revoke or annul the same at pleasure.

Third.—To establish and preserve a uniform mode of Working and Lectures, under the sanction of the ancient landmarks and customs of Masonry.

Fourth.—To assess and collect from the several Lodges under its jurisdiction, such sums of money as may be deemed necessary for the benefit of the Craft.

Fifth.—To hear and determine all questions of dispute between two or more Lodges.

Sixth.—To hear and decide all cases of appeal from the decision of particular Lodges.

Seventh.—To demand and receive such fees and charges for granting Dispensations, Warrants, Certificates and Diplomas, as may be reasonable.

Eighth.—To hear and decide all charges and complaints against any Officer of the Grand Lodge, and to inflict such punishment on the delinquent and guilty as may appear just and proper.

Ninth.—To exercise all such powers, and perform all such acts, as by custom are exercised and performed by Grand Lodges. But in no case to alter, deface or remove the ancient established landmarks of Masonry.

ARTICLE V.

QUALIFICATION, ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

SECTION—

- 13. Eligibility to certain offices.
- 14. Election and appointment of Officers.
- 15. Installation, when, by whom.
- 16. If Grand Master absent.

SECTION—

- 17. Installation of other Officers.
- 18. Obligation.
- 19. Proclamation.
- 20. No Officer to act until installed.

SECTION 13. No Brother shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Warden, or District Deputy Grand Master, unless he shall have been regularly elected and duly installed Master of a duly constituted Lodge, and faithfully discharged his duties in such office for the term for which he was elected. And no one of the Officers above named, during his continuance in office, shall be Master or Warden of a particular Lodge. Nor shall the Master of any particular Lodge be eligible to either of the above-named offices in the Grand Lodge, during his continuance in office as Master.

SECTION 14. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary shall be chosen by ballot. The other Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master. In all cases of ballot, a majority shall be necessary to make a choice.

SECTION 15. The Officers of the Grand Lodge, elected and appointed, shall be installed at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, as soon after their election and appointment as may be. The Grand Master shall be installed by his immediate predecessor; or, in his absence, by the senior Past Grand Master present, and in the absence of such Past Grand Master, by the senior Past Master present; preference, however, being given to Past Grand Officers, according to their rank.

SECTION 16. In case the Grand Master elect be absent at the time of installation, he may be installed at such time and place, and by such person, as the Grand Lodge may specially authorize and appoint, unless he declines to accept said office.

SECTION 17. All elected or appointed Grand Officers, if present, shall be installed in open Grand Lodge. If any elected or appointed Grand Officer be absent at such time of installation, he may be installed by some person specially authorized, in manner provided for the installation of the Grand Master, as set forth in the preceding section. No Officer required by the Constitution to take an obligation prior to his installation, can be installed by proxy.

SECTION 18. The several Grand Officers, previous to their installation, shall make the following declaration:

“I, A. B., do solemnly promise, on the honor of a Mason, that I will perform the duties of the office of _____, to the best of my abilities, agreeably to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and the ancient usages and landmarks of Masonry.”

SECTION 19. All Grand Officers, elected or appointed, when installed, shall be proclaimed by the Grand Marshal, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors are duly elected and installed.

SECTION 20. No elected Officer of the Grand Lodge, or of any particular Lodge, can act as such until he is duly installed.

ARTICLE VI.

POWER AND DUTY OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECTION—

- 21. Grand Master shall preside.
- 22. Grand Master may grant Dispensations, arrest Warrant, suspend Brother or Lodge, and convene the Grand Lodge.
- 23. Grand Master may convene any Lodge.
- 24. Grand Master shall visit Lodges.
- 25. Grand Master to divide the State into Districts and assign limits.
- 26. Grand Master may appoint special Deputies.
- 27. Grand Master shall appoint all Committees and give the casting vote.
- 28. Grand Master may grant Dispensations for processions, conferring degrees, and all other acts belonging to his office.
- 29. Grand Master to cause Exemplification of work at Semi-Annual Communication.
- 30. Deputy Grand Master to assist Grand Master and preside in his absence.
- 31. Deputy Grand Master to succeed Grand Master, when.
- 32. Duties of Grand Wardens.
- 33. Succession of Grand Wardens.
- 34. Grand Treasurer to have charge of funds and give bonds.
- 35. Grand Treasurer to exhibit statement of accounts.
- 36. Grand Treasurer to receive all money from Grand Secretary, keep all property deposited, exhibit accounts, have charge of jewels and take receipts for those delivered.

SECTION—

- 37. Compensation of Grand Treasurer.
- 38. Duties of Grand Secretary.
- 39. Grand Secretary to notify chairmen of Committees.
- 40. Grand Secretary to forward edicts and list of Officers.
- 41. Grand Secretary to print and distribute proceedings.
- 42. Grand Sec'y to distribute blanks.
- 43. Grand Secretary to collect fees and dues and give bond.
- 44. Grand Secretary to make report and statement of accounts.
- 45. D. D. G. Masters to visit and inspect Lodges.
- 46. D. D. G. Masters to communicate edicts &c., and report to the Grand Master before May 1, and be paid their expenses.
- 47. D. D. G. Masters to keep records.
- 48. Visitation of Lodges.
- 49. Duties of Grand Lecturers and compensation.
- 50. Duty of Grand Chaplains.
- 51. Duties of Grand Deacons.
- 52. Duty of Grand Marshal.
- 53. Duty of Grand Stewards.
- 54. Duty of Grand Sword Bearer.
- 55. Duties of Grand Pursuivant.
- 56. Duty of Grand Tyler.

SECTION 21. The Grand Master shall preside over and govern the Grand Lodge at all its Communications.

SECTION 22. The Grand Master has power and authority, during the recess of the Grand Lodge, to grant Dispensations to new Lodges, to continue in force until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge; to arrest the Dispensation or Warrant of any Lodge, for good cause, until the next Communication of the Grand Lodge; and for dereliction of duty, or other unmasonic conduct, he may suspend a Brother or Lodge until the next Communication of the Grand Lodge, when he shall present the reason for such arrest or suspension, in writing. He may convene the Grand Lodge at pleasure, giving reasonable notice thereof to

the Lodges and members, of the time and place intended for the meeting, and stating therein the object of it.

SECTION 23. The Grand Master may convene any Lodge within his jurisdiction, preside therein (with his Officers or otherwise), inspect their proceedings, and require their conformity to the regulations and edicts of the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 24. The Grand Master shall, at least once in a year, by himself, his Deputy or District Deputy, visit all the Lodges under this jurisdiction, examine into their conduct, their records and proceedings; correct irregularities and prevent innovations; and make a report of his doings to the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication.

SECTION 25. The Grand Master has authority from time to time, as he may think for the good of Masonry, to divide the State into Districts, and assign their limits. Every newly-constituted Lodge shall be assigned by him to some District, and notice given to the District Deputy Grand Master of the same.

SECTION 26. The Grand Master may appoint a special Deputy or Deputies, to constitute a new Lodge or Lodges, or for any other purpose to be specified in such appointment.

SECTION 27. The Grand Master shall appoint all Committees of the Grand Lodge, when presiding therein, unless otherwise ordered, and shall give the casting vote whenever, in any question before the Grand Lodge, there shall be an equal number of votes.

SECTION 28. The Grand Master may grant Dispensations for processions and for conferring Degrees, and do all other acts and deeds that are warranted and required of him by the regulations and ancient customs of the Fraternity.

SECTION 29. It shall be the duty of the Grand Master, or presiding Officer, at the Semi-Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge, to give, or cause to be given, Exemplification of the Work and Lectures in each Degree.

SECTION 30. It shall be the duty of the Deputy Grand Master to attend all the Communications of the Grand Lodge, and to render to the Grand Master such assistance as may be required of him; and in the absence of the Grand Master he shall preside in Grand Lodge, and perform such duties and possess such authority, while presiding, as appertain to the Grand Master.

SECTION 31. In case of the death, or removal from the State, of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master shall, *ex officio*, exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the Grand Master, as herein provided, until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge; and during the temporary absence of the Grand Master, he shall exercise and perform like powers and duties.

SECTION 32. It shall be the duty of the Grand Wardens to assist the Grand Master in the Grand Lodge; and, when required, they are to attend in the examination of any particular Lodge, and act as his Wardens.

SECTION 33. In the absence of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden shall preside over the Grand Lodge; and in his absence, the Junior Grand Warden; and in the absence of all these, then the Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, and Past Grand Wardens, according to seniority; and if no Officer of either grade be present, the senior Past Master is to preside, unless he waive his right to another Brother who is Past Master. In either of these cases the presiding Officer, unless he be Past Grand Master, shall wear the jewel of the Deputy Grand Master.

SECTION 34. The Grand Treasurer shall have the custody and charge of the Funds of the Grand Lodge; and shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office, give bond with surety or sureties, to the satisfaction of the Grand Master and Grand Wardens, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his trust; and shall, from time to time, invest all unappropriated Funds in his hands, in such manner as the Grand Lodge or Grand Master may direct.

SECTION 35. He shall lay before the Grand Lodge, on the first day of the Annual Communication thereof, a statement of his accounts, exhibiting the amount received and paid out, and on what account, with the respective dates of receipts and disbursements.

SECTION 36. He shall receive all moneys from the Grand Secretary, as well as all other moneys paid to the Grand Lodge; shall pay all bills passed by the Committee of Finance, shall have in his care all Warrants, Records, Seals, and Clothing returned to

the Grand Lodge, shall annually render to the Grand Lodge a statement of his accounts, together with the vouchers, with schedule of the funds of the Grand Lodge; and shall deliver to his successor in office the funds and other property of the Grand Lodge, taking duplicate receipts therefor, one of which he shall deposit with the Grand Secretary. He shall also take charge of the Jewels, Furniture, and Clothing of the Grand Lodge, and keep a record of the Officers to whom any of the Jewels, Clothing, &c., shall be delivered, and shall take a receipt therefor in such form as the Grand Lodge or Grand Master may direct.

SECTION 37. The Grand Treasurer shall receive annually, as a full compensation for his services, one per cent. upon all moneys in the Treasury.

SECTION 38. The Grand Secretary shall attend upon the Communications of the Grand Lodge, observe and record the proceedings thereof, and preserve the same in suitable books kept for that purpose. He shall summon the members to attend all meetings of the Grand Lodge, in such manner as the Grand Lodge or Grand Master may direct. He shall receive all petitions, applications, and appeals, and lay them before the Grand Master. He shall have the custody of the Seal of the Grand Lodge. He shall engross, attest, and affix the Seal to all Warrants, Commissions, Diplomas, and Certificates, when ordered by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. He shall keep a list of all the Lodges under this jurisdiction, according to seniority.

SECTION 39. The Grand Secretary shall furnish the Chairman of every Committee with a copy of the vote of his appointment, and attend all Committees with the records and papers of his office, when required; and shall record all reports of Committees which may be accepted by the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 40. The Grand Secretary shall, as soon as may be, after its several Communications, forward to each member of the Grand Lodge, such number of copies of the Edicts and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, including a list of the Grand Officers for the time being, as shall be directed by the Grand Master; and all such other transactions of the Grand Lodge as may be necessary for the information and regulation of the particular Lodges.

SECTION 41. The Grand Secretary, when required, shall cause a transcript of the Journal of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge to be printed, as soon after the Annual Communication as the same can be done, and shall forward a copy thereof to each of the Grand Lodges of the United States, and also to the Grand Lodges of such foreign States as may be in communication with this Grand Lodge, and one copy to each member of this Grand Lodge, and one copy also to each particular Lodge.

SECTION 42. The Grand Secretary shall transmit to the Secretaries of the particular Lodges all the necessary blanks and instructions for their use; and, during the intervals of the Communications of the Grand Lodge, under the direction of the Grand Master, answer all communications addressed on the subject of Masonry.

SECTION 43. The Grand Secretary shall collect and receive all fees and sums of money which shall become due to the Grand Lodge and pay the same over to the Grand Treasurer; shall open and keep an account with each particular Lodge, and report a statement thereof at each annual communication of the Grand Lodge; and, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall give bond, with sufficient surety or sureties to the satisfaction of the Grand Master and Grand Wardens, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his trust.

SECTION 44. The Grand Secretary shall, at the Annual Communication, make a report of his doings in his office to the Grand Lodge, with a statement of his accounts.

SECTION 45. The District Deputy Grand Masters shall visit the several Lodges in their respective Districts once, at least, in every year; preside in the same, when present; and shall inspect their by-laws, the state and condition of their finances, records and mode of working; but if unable to visit any Lodge, they may appoint some suitable Brother to perform that duty.

SECTION 46. The District Deputy Grand Masters shall communicate to the Lodges all such Edicts and Regulations of the Grand Lodge as may be received by them from the Grand Secretary; shall, on or before the first day of May in each year, make a detailed report of their doings to the Grand Master; and they shall attend annually in the Grand Lodge. They shall be

reimbursed their expenses in visiting Lodges, their accounts being first examined and passed by the Committee of Finance.

SECTION 47. Each District Deputy Grand Master shall keep a book of records in which he shall record every official act performed by him with the date thereof.

SECTION 48. It shall be incumbent on the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, District Deputy Grand Master and Grand Lecturers, severally to improve and perfect themselves in the Sublime Arts and Work appertaining to the several Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason; and to make themselves masters of the several Masonic Lectures and ancient Charges belonging to those Degrees; to consult with each other and with Masters of particular Lodges for the purpose of adopting measures suitable and proper for diffusing a knowledge of said Lectures and Charges, and a uniform mode of Working in the several Lodges throughout this jurisdiction; and the better to effect this laudable purpose, the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens are severally hereby authorized and empowered to visit and preside in every and any Lodge in this State; and the District Deputy Grand Masters are hereby severally required to visit, as often as practicable, the several Lodges within their respective Districts, and are hereby authorized and empowered to preside in the same; all the above-named Officers are authorized to examine the doings of the several Lodges, correct irregularities, and give such directions and instructions as the good of the Fraternity may require; always adhering to the ancient landmarks of the Order and the requirements of this Constitution.

SECTION 49. The Grand Lecturers are to instruct the several Lodges within their respective Districts in the Work and Lectures of the several Degrees; and shall once in each year visit the same for that purpose, and the Grand Lodge shall pay the expenses the Grand Lecturer may necessarily incur in visiting and instructing the Lodges.

SECTION 50. The Grand Chaplains shall attend the Communications of the Grand Lodge, and perform such clerical duties as may be suitable to the occasion, and as are established by Masonic usage.

SECTION 51. The Grand Deacons shall assist within the Grand Lodge in such duties as appertain to their office, and attend the Grand Master in processions.

SECTION 52. The Grand Marshal shall direct the organization of the Grand Lodge before it is opened; collect from the members and petitioners in the Grand Lodge all communications, and place them before the Grand Master; shall introduce visitors; shall direct the formation of processions; regulate all festivals and refreshments, and shall communicate or execute all commands of the Grand Master not otherwise provided for.

SECTION 53. The Grand Stewards shall properly distribute the Jewels and Clothing, and collect the same at the closing of the Grand Lodge, and place them in charge of the Grand Treasurer; and shall, under the direction of the Grand Marshal, provide suitably for the Grand Lodge at every Communication.

SECTION 54. The Grand Sword Bearer is to attend the Grand Master, and assist the Grand Marshal in the discharge of his duties.

SECTION 55. The Grand Pursuivants are to attend to the Officers, members and visitors; to see that they appear in Grand Lodge suitably clothed, and under the direction of the Grand Marshal, that they take their proper stations. In all public processions of the Grand Lodge, they shall precede and assist the Grand Marshal.

SECTION 56. The Grand Tyler shall guard the outer door.

ARTICLE VII.

STATIONS, JEWELS, AND CLOTHING.

SECTION—
57. Stations.
58. Jewels.

SECTION—
59. Clothing.

SECTION 57. The stations of the Officers in Grand Lodge are as follows:

THE M.: W.: GRAND MASTER,

In the East, at the head of the Grand Lodge.

THE R.: W.: DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,

In the East, next to and left of the M.: W.: Grand Master.

THE R.·. W.·. SENIOR GRAND WARDEN,

In the West.

THE R.·. W.·. JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN,

In the South.

THE M.·. W.·. PAST GRAND MASTERS,

In the East, at the right of the M.·. W.·. Grand Master, and the Junior Past Grand Master next to the Grand Master.

THE R.·. W.·. PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,

In the East, at the right of the Past Grand Masters.

THE R.·. W.·. PAST GRAND WARDENS,

In the East, at the right of the Past Deputy Grand Masters.

THE R.·. W.·. DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,

In the East, on the left of the Deputy Grand Master.

THE R.·. W.·. PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,

In the East, on the left of the District Deputy Grand Masters.

THE R.·. W.·. GRAND TREASURER,

On the right, in front of the Grand Master.

THE R.·. W.·. GRAND SECRETARY,

On the left, in front of the Grand Master.

THE R.·. W.·. GRAND LECTURERS,

In the East; in front of the District Deputy Grand Masters.

THE R.: W.: AND REV. GRAND CHAPLAINS,

In the East, the Senior in front upon the right of the Grand Master, and between him and the Past Junior Grand Master; and the Junior in front upon the left of the Grand Master, and between him and the D.: G.: Master.

THE W.: GRAND MARSHAL,

Upon the left of the Grand Master, in front of the Grand Secretary.

THE W.: SENIOR GRAND DEACON,

Upon the right of the Grand Master, in front of the Grand Treasurer.

THE W.: JUNIOR GRAND DEACON,

In the West, on the right of the Senior Grand Warden.

THE W.: GRAND STEWARDS,

In the South, two upon the right, and two upon the left of the Junior Grand Warden, one Steward in front of the other.

THE W.: GRAND SWORD BEARER,

At the left of the Grand Marshal.

THE W.: GRAND PURSUIVANTS.

Near the doors of entrance to the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 58. The Jewels of the Grand Officers are:

The Grand Master: The Compass extended upon the sextant of a circle, to the angle of 45°, with the Square within the Compass, and above the Square an Eye irradiated, within a Triangle, also irradiated, upon an Oval within the Compass.

Past Grand Masters: The same as the Grand Master, except the Square.

Deputy Grand Master: The Compass opened to the angle of 45° athwart the Square; within the Compass a Pentalpha.

Senior Grand Warden: The Level.

Junior Grand Warden: The Plumb.

District Deputy Grand Masters: The Compass opened to the angle of 45° athwart the Square; within the Compass, a Sun irradiated.

Grand Treasurer: Cross Keys.

Grand Secretary: Cross Pens.

Grand Lecturers: The 47th proposition of Euclid in silver upon a Triangle in gold; within the Square a letter G.

Grand Chaplains: The open Bible upon a Triangle irradiated.

Grand Deacons: The Dove and Olive Branch.

Grand Marshal: Cross Batons.

Grand Stewards: The Cornucopia athwart the Compass, open to the angle of 45° .

Grand Sword Bearer: Cross Swords.

Grand Pursuivants: Sword and Baton crossed.

Grand Tyler: A Sword pendent.

All the Jewels, except those of the Grand Master, Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Master, and District Deputy Grand Masters, to be placed within a Circle.

SECTION 59. The Officers of the Grand Lodge shall wear their appropriate Jewel appended to a purple velvet collar, and a white apron trimmed with purple. The Masters and Wardens of particular Lodges shall wear their appropriate Jewels appended to a blue velvet collar and a plain white apron. Representatives of Lodges shall wear a white apron, which may be trimmed with purple. And no member of the Grand Lodge shall be allowed to speak or vote in Grand Lodge unless he be properly clothed.

PART I I.

OF PARTICULAR LODGES.

ARTICLE VIII. Dispensations and Warrants for new Lodges.
IX. Of Removal of Lodges.
X. Surrender, Forfeiture and Revocation of Warrants.
XI. Renewal of Warrants.
XII. Powers and Duties.
XIII. Officers.

ARTICLE VIII.

DISPENSATIONS AND WARRANTS FOR NEW LODGES.

SECTION—

60. Dispensations, by whom issued.
61. Dispensations, requisites for.
62. Dispensations, Grand Lecturer's certificate.
63. Dispensations, Sanction of Master and Wardens.
64. Dispensations and Warrants, fees for.

SECTION—

65. Dispensation, Petition for.
66. Dimits to be received before constitution.
67. Lodges, by whom constituted.
68. Lodges must be constituted.

SECTION 60. Dispensations for holding new Lodges may be issued by the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge, on the petition of not less than seven Master Masons of known skill and good standing.

SECTION 61. Every petition for a Dispensation or Warrant to form a new Lodge, shall be accompanied by the approbation and recommendation of the two Lodges, subordinate to this Grand Lodge, nearest the place where the new Lodge is to be held, by vote of said Lodges at stated Communications, notice having been given at previous stated Communications, and of the District Deputy Grand Master of the District, vouching for the moral and Masonic ability of the petitioners, and recommending the Grand Lodge to grant them a Dispensation or Warrant.

SECTION 62. Every petition for a new Lodge shall also be accompanied by the Certificate of the Grand Lecturer of the District, that he has examined the Master and Wardens nominated in the petition, and found them well skilled in the entire Work and Lectures of Ancient Craft Masonry.

SECTION 63. If a majority of the petitioners are members of a regularly constituted Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, they shall also obtain a Certificate from the Master and Wardens of the Lodge of which they are members, sanctioning the separation and their erection into a new Lodge.

SECTION 64. The fee for such Dispensation shall be twenty-five dollars, to be paid to the Grand Secretary, and every Dispensation shall be returned to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication, together with an attested transcript of all the proceedings, and the By-Laws of the Lodge working under the same. If these be approved by the Grand Lodge, a Warrant of Constitution may be issued to the petitioners, bearing even date with the Dispensation, for which they shall pay to the Grand Secretary the further sum of fifty dollars, seven of which shall be for the Grand Secretary.

SECTION 65. The form of a Petition for Dispensation shall be in substance as follows:

“To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire.

“We, the undersigned, being Master Masons of good standing, and having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry; and for the convenience of our respective dwellings, and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new Lodge, to be named _____ Lodge. We, therefore, with the approbation of the District Deputy Grand Master, and the two Lodges nearest the place where the new Lodge is to be held, respectfully pray for a Dispensation empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at _____, and there discharge the duties of Ancient Craft Masonry, in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order, and the laws of the Grand Lodge. And we have nominated and do recommend Brother A_____ B_____ to be the first Master; Brother C_____ D_____ to be the first Senior Warden, and Brother E_____ F_____ to be the first Junior Warden of said Lodge. The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master, and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.”

SECTION 66. Before a new Lodge shall be constituted, the Grand Master, or his Deputy, who shall be appointed to constitute such Lodge, shall receive the dimits or recommendations of all Brothers who shall become members of such new Lodge.

SECTION 67. Every new Lodge shall be solemnly constituted, dedicated, and consecrated, by the Grand Master and his Officers, or by some competent Brother especially appointed by him for the purpose.

SECTION 68. No new Lodge is recognized, or its Officers entitled to vote in this Grand Lodge, unless it be regularly constituted, solemnly dedicated, and consecrated, and no Officer of a Lodge working under Dispensation is entitled to a seat as Representative in the Grand Lodge.

A R T I C L E I X.

OF REMOVAL OF LODGES.

SECTION—

69. Lodge to be summoned.
70. Vote of Lodge and Certificate of
nearest Lodges.

SECTION—

71. Consent of Grand Lodge.

SECTION 69. Whenever the members of a Lodge wish to remove it from one town to another, or more than two miles from where the meetings have usually been held, the Master shall summon every member of the Lodge to attend a stated communication, notice having been given at a previous stated communication, for the express purpose of taking the subject of removal into consideration.

SECTION 70. If the Lodge shall deem such removal expedient, they shall present a petition for that purpose to the Grand Lodge, which petition shall be signed by not less than three-fourths of the members of the Lodge desiring a removal, and shall be accompanied with certificates from the two nearest Lodges, testifying their approbation of the proposed measure.

SECTION 71. If the Grand Lodge, on such petition, shall deem it proper to grant the prayer of the petition, the Warrant of the Lodge to be removed shall be presented to the Grand Secre-

tary, who shall indorse on it the vote of the Grand Lodge removing the particular Lodge, which vote shall be signed by the Grand Master and countersigned by the Grand Secretary, and for which the Lodge to be removed shall pay to the Grand Secretary the sum of ten dollars.

A R T I C L E X.

SURRENDER, FORFEITURE, AND REVOCATION OF WARRANTS.

SECTION—

- 72. On surrender of Warrant all property to be given up to Grand Lodge.
- 73. Funds to belong to Grand Lodge.
- 74. Lodges neglecting to Werk or make Returns, their Warrants forfeited.
- 75. Upon revocation or forfeiture, books, papers and property to be given up to Grand Lodge.

SECTION—

- 76. Warrants restored, how.
- 77. Members implicated, disqualified.
- 78. Mason assisting in Work of suspended or cancelled Lodge to be expelled.
- 79. Warrant not surrendered if seven adhere to it.
- 80. Master and Wardens refusing to obey summons, punishment.

SECTION 72. If any particular Lodge shall see fit to surrender its Warrant, whether or not with the intention of resuming it at a future period, it shall be the duty of the last Master, Treasurer, and Secretary of such Lodge, to deliver to the Grand Treasurer, with the Warrant, the by-laws, records, seal, clothing, funds, and other property of the Lodge of every description; and all the property of a Lodge surrendering its Warrant, with the intention of resuming it, shall be held by the Grand Lodge in trust until such time as the Warrant shall be restored, or the intention of reclaiming it abandoned.

SECTION 73. The interest of all funds and property of a Lodge whose Warrant is surrendered with the intention of resuming it, and all funds or property of a Lodge whose Warrant is surrendered absolutely, belong to the Grand Lodge, for such uses as it may direct.

SECTION 74. Every Lodge that shall neglect or refuse to pay its dues to the Grand Lodge, or to make regular returns, or to be represented in the Grand Lodge for two years, or shall neglect to assemble for Work for the space of one year, shall be stricken from the Grand Lodge books, be deprived of the benefits of Masonry, and its Warrant forfeited.

SECTION 75. Upon the revocation or forfeiture of the Warrant of any Lodge, it shall be the duty of the last Master, Treasurer, and Secretary thereof, to surrender to the Grand Treasurer the Warrant, books, papers, jewels, and furniture of said Lodge, within six months from the time of such revocation or forfeiture; and all members of a Lodge who shall refuse to make such surrender, or who shall vote to divide the funds among themselves, or to appropriate them in any other way than is here designated, shall be deemed guilty of a violation of the rules and regulations of Masonry.

SECTION 76. No Warrant which has been surrendered, (whether with the intention of resuming it or not,) forfeited, or revoked, shall be restored, unless upon the petition of seven Master Masons, of whom four at least of the petitioners for its restoration were members of the Lodge at the time of its surrender. And it shall be the duty of the petitioners to notify the District Deputy Grand Master of the District, and the two Lodges nearest their residence, of their intention to petition for the restoration.

SECTION 77. If at any time it shall be found necessary to suspend or cancel the Warrant of any Lodge for irregular or unmasonic conduct, the members of said Lodge who were implicated in such irregular or unmasonic conduct at the time of its having incurred such penalty, shall be disqualified to join or visit any other Lodge, without special permission from the Grand Lodge, obtained on memorial.

SECTION 78. Any Mason assisting at the work of a Lodge, knowing its Warrant to have been suspended or cancelled, shall be liable to expulsion from the rights of Masonry.

SECTION 79. Every Warranted Lodge is a constituent part of the Grand Lodge, in which body all the power of the Fraternity resides; and no authority, except that possessed by the Grand Lodge, can annul, abrogate, or destroy the power of a Warrant. If, therefore, the majority of a Lodge should determine to leave the institution, or that Lodge, the Constitution, or power of assembling, remains with the rest of the members who adhere to their allegiance. If the number, however, be reduced to less than seven, the Warrant shall be returned, agreeably to the regulation in such cases provided.

SECTION 80. If the Master and Wardens of any Lodge be summoned to attend, or to produce the Warrant, books, papers, or accounts of their Lodge to the Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand Master within whose jurisdiction it is located, or to any Committee authorized by the Grand Lodge, and shall refuse to comply, or give satisfactory reasons for non-compliance, they may be suspended, and the proceedings shall be notified to the Grand Lodge, when, in case of contumacy, expulsion, suspension, or revocation of Warrant shall be the penalty.

A R T I C L E X I .

R E N E W A L O F W A R R A N T S .

SECTION 81. If the Warrant of any Lodge shall accidentally be destroyed by fire, or otherwise, the Grand Secretary shall, by authority of the Grand Master, on application of said Lodge, furnish a new Warrant, or a certified copy of the original; said Lodge paying the necessary expense for preparing the same.

A R T I C L E X I I .

P O W E R S A N D D U T I E S .

SECTION—

- 82. General Powers.
- 83. Master to convene Lodge to receive D. D. G. M. .
- 84. Dues to Grand Lodge.
- 85. Returns.
- 86. Must have Warrant from this Grand Lodge.
- 87. Fees.
- 88. Degrees, how conferred.
- 89. Funds for Masonic purposes only.
- 90. Business in Master's Lodge.

SECTION—

- 91. Unauthorized Lectures forbidden.
- 92. Discussions not Masonic forbidden.
- 93. No public procession without Grand Master's permission.
- 94. Funerals.
- 95. By-Laws to be approved by the Grand Lodge.
- 96. By-Laws, how amended.
- 97. Blank Returns and Diplomas.

SECTION 82. All Lodges under this jurisdiction have a right to convene as Free and Accepted Masons, to receive and enter Apprentices, pass Fellow Crafts, and raise Master Masons, and establish fees therefor; to choose Officers annually, establish funds for charitable purposes, and transact all matters appertaining to Masonry, agreeably to their Warrants, the laws of the Grand Lodge, and the ancient usages of the Craft.

SECTION 83. It shall be the duty of every Master or presiding Officer of a Lodge, when notified of the intended official visit of the District Deputy Grand Master, to convene his Lodge, receive him as the Representative of the Grand Lodge, resign to him the Chair while making his official communication, and submit to his inspection the By-Laws, Records, and mode of Working.

SECTION 84. Every Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge shall pay for the support thereof, into the Grand Treasury, the sum of two dollars for each and every candidate initiated in such Lodge.

SECTION 85. Every Lodge shall annually make a return of its Officers and members, the names of those who have been made Masons, passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in such Lodge, during the year ending April fifteenth next preceding, with the date thereof; and of such other matters as may be required by the Grand Secretary; which shall be returned to the Grand Secretary, with the dues to the Grand Lodge, on or before the first day of May.

SECTION 86. No Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons can legally assemble in this State under a Warrant granted by any foreign Masonic power.

SECTION 87. The fee demanded by a Lodge for conferring the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, shall not be less than twenty-five dollars, including the fee to the Grand Lodge; and no Lodge under this jurisdiction shall take notes of hand for fees, or grant any time of credit therefor.

SECTION 88. No Lodge shall confer either of the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry upon more than one candidate at the same time and by the same ceremony, or more than five degrees at the same Communication, or on the same day.

SECTION 89. No Lodge shall appropriate or use its funds, or any part thereof, for any other object than charitable or other Masonic purposes.

SECTION 90. No business shall be transacted in a Lodge of Entered Apprentices or of Fellow Crafts, except that pertaining to the Work and Lectures of those degrees. All general business, such as the election and installation of Officers, the discussion of questions relating to the general interests of the Fraternity, and

the local affairs of the Lodge, shall be transacted in a Master's Lodge.

SECTION 91. No Lodge shall encourage, promote, or permit the delivery of any Masonic Lectures which have not been sanctioned and authorized by the Grand Lodge. Nor shall any Mason be permitted to deliver such Lectures under this jurisdiction.

SECTION 92. The discussion of any subject not of a strictly Masonic character is prohibited in every Lodge under this jurisdiction.

SECTION 93. No Lodge shall form a public procession, funeral processions excepted, without permission from the M.W.: Grand Master.

SECTION 94. No one beneath the degree of Master Mason, shall be buried with Masonic honors and the formalities of the Order. It is the duty of a Lodge of which a Brother is a member, or the nearest Lodge, to attend and perform the usual Masonic burial service over deceased Master Masons, when requested so to do by the deceased, or his nearest relatives.

SECTION 95. Every Lodge shall transmit to the Grand Secretary, immediately after their adoption, a copy of its By-Laws, for the examination of the Grand Lodge; and whenever the By-Laws of any Lodge shall be altered or amended, a copy of the same thus altered or amended shall be transmitted as above directed. In the recess of the Grand Lodge, the By-Laws of any Lodge, or any amendment or alteration of them, may be submitted to the Grand Master, and if approved by him, shall be in force until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 96. No Lodge shall have power to suspend temporarily any of the provisions of its By-Laws, nor alter or amend the same, unless such suspension, alteration or amendment shall have been proposed and entered on the records of the Lodge at a previous regular Communication; and in no case shall any such proposed suspension, alteration, or amendment be acted upon except at a stated Communication.

SECTION 97. Every Lodge shall be furnished by the Grand Lodge with necessary blank Returns, on making due application therefor to the Grand Secretary. Blank Diplomas shall also be

furnished to the particular Lodges by the Grand Secretary, as the Lodges may severally require, they paying the Grand Lodge for each Diploma, the sum of one dollar, or the cost thereof. The Grand Secretary shall receive from the hands of the Grand Lodge the sum of fifty cents for each Diploma furnished a particular Lodge, as his fee for sealing and certifying the same.

ARTICLE III.

OFFICERS.

SECTION—

- 98. Must be members.
- 99. Master must have been Warden.
- 100. Master, how installed.
- 101. Wardens cannot Work unless Past Master present.
- 102. Special Communication, how called.

SECTION—

- 103. Master responsible for Warrant, and to have it present at opening.
- 104. Constitution and By-Laws to be read before election.

SECTION 98. No Brother can be elected or appointed an Officer of a Lodge, unless he be a member of such Lodge, except the Tyler, who shall, however, be a member of some Lodge.

SECTION 99. No Brother is eligible to the office of Master of a Lodge who has not served acceptably as a Warden in some regularly constituted Lodge under the jurisdiction of this or some other Grand Lodge, at least six months; except where a new Lodge is to be formed, or where no such Warden can be found.

SECTION 100. The Master of every Lodge under this jurisdiction shall be installed by some Officer of the Grand Lodge, who is authorized by this Constitution to preside in a particular Lodge, or by some regular Past Master.

SECTION 101. No Lodge, in the absence of the Master, shall Initiate, Craft, or Raise, unless a Past Master is present.

SECTION 102. No special Communication of a Lodge shall be called without the order of the Master; in his absence, that of the Senior Warden; in the absence of both, that of the Junior Warden; or in the absence of these three Officers, that of the three oldest Master Masons, members of the Lodge.

SECTION 103. The Master of a Lodge has the special charge of

its Warrant, and it is his duty to see that it is carefully preserved. It must be present when the Lodge is opened.

SECTION 104. The Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and the By-Laws of each particular Lodge, so far as they relate to the election and qualification of Officers of particular Lodges, shall be read at every Annual Communication of each Lodge prior to the choice of its Officers.

P A R T I I I.

O F I N D I V I D U A L S.

ARTICLE XIV. Of Candidates and Balloting.
XV. Of Advancement and Dispensations.
XVI. Of Members.

A R T I C L E X I V.

O F C A N D I D A T E S A N D B A L L O T I N G.

SECTION—

105. Physical qualifications.
106. Petition, requisites of.
107. Petitions and ballots to be at stated Communications, to lay over four weeks, and inquiry made.
108. Fees to be paid before application.
109. Candidates must apply to nearest Lodge.
110. Candidates must have been in jurisdiction twelve months.

SECTION—

111. Candidate from jurisdiction of another Lodge in this State.
112. Candidates from out the State.
113. Petitions not to be withdrawn.
114. Rejected candidate must wait twelve months.
115. Rejected candidate not to apply to any other Lodge without consent.
116. Ballot unanimous.
117. One ballot for the degrees.
118. Declaration of candidates.

SECTION 105. By the ancient regulations, the physical deformity of an individual operates as a bar to his admission into the Fraternity. But as this regulation was adopted for the government of the Craft, at a period when they united the *character of operative* with that of *speculative* Masons, this Grand Lodge authorizes such a construction of the regulation as that, when the deformity of the candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Freemasonry, and does not amount to an inability honestly to acquire the means of subsistence, the admission will not be an infringement upon the ancient landmarks, but will be consistent with the spirit of our Institution.

SECTION 106. The petition of every candidate for initiation in any Lodge, must be printed or in writing, signed by the appli-

cant, stating his age, residence, occupation, and whether he has ever made application to, and been rejected by, any other Lodge; and be accompanied by the recommendation of not less than two members of the Lodge.

SECTION 107. No candidate for initiation shall be proposed or balloted for at a special Communication, nor be balloted for, until his application has laid over for the consideration of the members at least four weeks, without first obtaining a Dispensation therefor; nor shall a candidate in any event be balloted for, into whose moral character a strict inquiry has not been made.

SECTION 108. No Lodge under this jurisdiction shall receive the application of any one to be made a Mason, or to be Passed, or Raised, unless the prescribed fee for said degree has been previously deposited in the hands of the Secretary. If the candidate for the degrees when balloted for, be rejected, the sum so deposited shall be returned to him.

SECTION 109. Every candidate must apply to the Lodge nearest his residence, by the nearest traveled way.

SECTION 110. No application of any person for the degrees shall be entertained by any Lodge, unless he shall have resided within the jurisdiction of the Lodge to which application is made at least twelve months next preceding said application, except as provided in the two following sections.

SECTION 111. If any person wishes for initiation in any Lodge, who resides without the jurisdiction of such Lodge, but in this State, he shall first obtain the unanimous consent of the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides, by vote of the Lodge, at a stated Communication, notice thereof having been given at a previous stated Communication, which consent, under seal of the Lodge, shall be annexed to his application.

SECTION 112. If any person wishes for initiation in any Lodge, who resides without the State, he shall first obtain the consent of the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides, by unanimous vote, at a stated Communication, and the permission in writing of the Grand Master within whose jurisdiction he resides, which consent and permission shall be annexed to his application.

SECTION 113. No petition for initiation, or application for membership, shall be withdrawn.

SECTION 114. A rejected applicant for the degrees cannot again present his petition to any Lodge within twelve months of his rejection.

SECTION 115. No candidate whose application may be rejected by a Lodge, shall be initiated in any Lodge other than the one which rejected him, unless the Lodge recommend him to another Lodge by a unanimous vote—the vote to be taken by the secret ballot, at a stated Communication, notice thereof having been given at a previous stated Communication. And the Master and Wardens shall cause all rejections to be communicated to the Grand Secretary, who shall immediately communicate the same to all the Lodges under this jurisdiction. And if any Mason knowingly assist, or recommend for initiation, to any Lodge whatever, any candidate, rejected as aforesaid, except as above provided, such Mason shall be expelled from the Institution.

SECTION 116. The general rule which governs the Order in the admission of members and candidates, is, that such admission is to be sanctioned by entire unanimity; and so sacred and fundamental does the Grand Lodge conceive this rule to be, that no candidate shall be initiated in any Lodge without a clear and unanimous ballot in his favor. Every member present shall ballot on the application, unless excused by the Lodge.

SECTION 117. There shall be but one ballot for all the degrees. If objections are made to a candidate after initiation, charges shall be filed and a trial had, as provided in Article XVII.

SECTION 118. Every candidate for Masonry shall, before initiation, give an unqualified affirmative answer to the following questions :

“ Do you sincerely declare upon your honor, before these witnesses, that, unbiased by friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry ?

“ Do you sincerely declare, upon your honor, before these witnesses, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Masonry by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, a desire of knowledge, and a sincere wish of being serviceable to your fellow creatures ?

“ Do you sincerely declare, upon your honor, before these

witnesses, that you will cheerfully conform to all the ancient established usages and customs of the Fraternity?"

A R T I C L E X V.

OF ADVANCEMENT AND DISPENSATIONS.

SECTION—

119. Candidate to be examined as to proficiency.
120. Time of Work before advancement.

SECTION—

121. Advancement in another Lodge.
122. Fees for Dispensation.

SECTION 119. No Brother shall be advanced to a higher Degree in Masonry, without having been first examined by the Master in open Lodge as to his proficiency in the preceding Degree.

SECTION 120. No candidate can be admitted to more than one degree at the same time, except by Dispensation. All Entered Apprentices must work one month as such before they can be passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. All Fellow Crafts must work in a Lodge of Crafts one month before they can be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

SECTION 121. When application for the degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason is made to any Lodge, other than that in which the applicant was initiated or passed, it shall be accompanied by the consent of the Lodge in which he was initiated or passed, by unanimous vote, at a stated Communication, which consent shall be under seal of the Lodge, and shall be annexed to the application.

SECTION 122. Whenever a Dispensation is granted for conferring degrees, it shall be the duty of the Officer granting the same, to require and receive of the Lodge to whom the same may be granted, the sum of five dollars for the Dispensation, which shall be paid to the Grand Secretary for the use of the Grand Lodge; and the Lodge shall require of the candidate ten dollars in addition to their usual fee.

ARTICLE XVI.

OF MEMBERS.

SECTION—

- 123. Admission of members.
- 124. In one Lodge only.
- 125. Of changing membership from one Lodge to another.
- 126. Removal alone does not justify striking name from roll.

SECTION—

- 127. Discharged not to be members of another Lodge.
- 128. Visitor may call for Warrant.

SECTION 123. No Brother shall be admitted a member of any particular Lodge, until he has been raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Every Master Mason raised in any Lodge, may become a member thereof by signing the By-Laws. Every candidate for membership not raised in the Lodge, or raised more than six months before, must be proposed at a stated Communication, and be balloted for at a subsequent stated Communication of the Lodge, and accepted by unanimous ballot.

SECTION 124. No Brother shall be a member of more than one Lodge, nor shall he hold more than one office in the same Lodge, at the same time.

SECTION 125. Any Brother desiring to change his membership from one particular Lodge to another, shall apply to the Lodge for a recommendation to such other Lodge, which if no sufficient objection appears shall be granted, and shall be in writing under seal of the Lodge, and shall be presented with his application for membership to such other Lodge, when, if elected to membership in the new Lodge, his membership in his old Lodge shall cease from that time; if not elected, his membership in the old Lodge shall remain unaffected.

SECTION 126. The removal of a Brother into another jurisdiction, does not, of itself, authorize his name to be stricken from the roll of the Lodge of which he is a member.

SECTION 127. Any Brother who has been discharged from membership for the non-payment of dues, shall not be admitted to membership in any other Lodge, until the same are paid or remitted.

SECTION 128. A visiting Brother has a right to call for the Warrant of the Lodge he desires to visit.

PART IV.

TRIALS AND PENALTIES.

ARTICLE XVII. Trials and Penalties.

ARTICLE XVII.

TRIALS AND PENALTIES.

SECTION—

- 129. Rules for trials.
- 130. Form of voting.
- 131. Punishments.
- 132. Restoration, how.
- 133. Application for restoration.
- 134. Lodges to watch the conduct of their members.
- 135. Sojourners.
- 136. If no penalty affixed, what punishment.

SECTION—

- 137. Trial of Master.
- 138. Effect of suspension or expulsion by R. A. Chapter or Commandery.
- 139. Non-payment of dues.
- 140. Effect of reversal of sentence by Grand Lodge.
- 141. Trials in Grand Lodge.
- 142. Publication of expulsions.

SECTION 129. Whenever a member of a Lodge, or a Brother, shall be accused of any offence, which, if proved, would subject him to suspension or expulsion, he shall have a fair and impartial trial, and the proceedings shall be conducted substantially as follows :

Rule 1. The accusation shall be made in writing, under the signature of a Master Mason, and given in charge to the Secretary of a Lodge, who, under the direction of the Master, shall serve, or cause the accused to be served with an attested copy of the charges, and shall give him seasonable notice of the time and place of hearing, if his residence be known.

Rule 2. The examination of the charges shall be had in a Lodge specially notified and convened for the purpose, at which none but members of the Lodge, or of the Grand Lodge, shall be admitted, except as counsel or witnesses.

Rule 3. The accused may select any Brother for his counsel, and the witnesses shall testify on their honor, and if Masons, on their honor as such. Hearsay evidence shall be excluded.

Rule 4. If the witnesses can not or will not attend the Lodge, their depositions may be taken and read as evidence. Reasonable notice of the time and place of taking each deposition shall be given in writing to the opposite party, by the person appointed to take the same; the deponent shall give his testimony on his honor; both parties may be present with their counsel, and put such questions to the deponent as they please and are relevant. The deposition, having been reduced to writing, shall be read to, and then signed by, the deponent, and sealed up in his presence, and returned unopened to the Lodge.

Rule 5. The question, "*Is the accused guilty or not guilty?*" shall be distinctly put to each member of the Lodge, by name, commencing with the youngest. The Secretary shall record the answer as given.

Rule 6. If the accused shall be found guilty, the question shall then be taken on the grade of punishment in the following order:

1st. "Shall the accused be expelled?" If two-thirds of those voting do not vote for expulsion —

2d. "Shall the accused be suspended?" If two-thirds of those voting do not vote for suspension, the punishment of reprimand by the Master shall be imposed as of course without further vote of the Lodge, and the Master shall proceed at once to administer the reprimand in open Lodge.

Rule 7. If the verdict be suspension or expulsion, an attested copy of the proceedings shall be sent to the Grand Lodge at the next ensuing meeting thereof for examination and final action.

Rule 8. A sentence of suspension or expulsion shall not take full effect until confirmed by this Grand Lodge; but shall operate as suspension of the delinquent in the mean time.

Rule 9. The Lodge shall appoint some Brother to take minutes of the evidence, which shall be preserved on the files of the Lodge, but not entered upon the records.

Rule 10. The Secretary shall keep a full record of all proceedings, and shall transmit within thirty days, and before the meeting of the Grand Lodge, to the Grand Master, a full copy of

all the evidence, charges, specifications, notices, services of same, and of all things in any way pertaining to the trial, which copy shall be signed by the Master and attested by the Secretary, under seal.

Rule 11. Either party may appeal from the decision of the Lodge or rulings of the Master, which appeal must be in writing, signed by the appellant and filed with the Secretary of the Lodge within one month of the decision, and must set forth the reason why he makes the appeal. The appellant shall give at least ten days' notice in writing to the other party of such appeal, prior to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 130. In taking the vote upon the questions, "Is the accused guilty or not guilty?" "Shall the accused be expelled?" "Shall the accused be suspended?" every Brother present must vote unless excused by unanimous vote of the Lodge.

SECTION 131. Masonic punishments are expulsion, suspension, which must be indefinite, and reprimand, which shall be administered by the Master in open Lodge.

SECTION 132. No Mason, whose suspension or expulsion has been confirmed by this Grand Lodge, shall be restored to the privileges of Masonry, except by a unanimous vote of the members present when such restoration may be acted on, of the Lodge by which he was so expelled or suspended, and with the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 133. The application for restoration shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, presented to the Lodge at a stated Communication, when a time shall be appointed by the Lodge for its consideration at some stated Communication.

SECTION 134. Every Lodge is required to keep a careful watch over the conduct of its members; and should any member of a Lodge be addicted to profanity, intemperance, lewdness or gambling, or be charged with any other violation of his Masonic duties and obligations, it shall be the duty of such Lodge immediately to institute an inquiry into the facts of the case, and if the Brother charged with offending be found guilty, the Lodge is required, as justice shall demand, to reprimand the offender, suspend or expel him from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, until a thorough reformation takes place.

SECTION 135. Particular Lodges have power, and may take cognizance of any immoral or unmasonic conduct of a sojourning Brother; that is, in cases where the offender is a member of any Lodge within the United States, the Lodge in whose precinct he may be accused of immoral or unmasonic conduct, may inquire into and report the same to the Lodge whereof he is a member, that he may be there tried; and in cases where the accused is not a member of any such Lodge, the Lodge within whose jurisdiction the offence shall have been committed, may proceed as against a member thereof, and censure, suspend, or expel the offender, as the nature of the offence may require.

SECTION 136. A Lodge or Brother offending against any law or regulation of the Craft, or of the Grand Lodge, to the breach of which no penalty is attached, shall, at the discretion of the Grand Lodge, or particular Lodge having jurisdiction of the case, be subject to admonition, suspension or expulsion.

SECTION 137. It shall not be competent for a Lodge to try its Master. Any five members of the Lodge, or the District Deputy Grand Master, may impeach him before the Grand Master, who shall order an investigation of the charges; and if in his opinion they are well founded, and of a character to justify the proceeding, he may suspend the delinquent, and summon him to appear at the next Communication of the Grand Lodge, to show cause why he should not be dealt with according to the regulations and usages in such cases established.

SECTION 138. An expulsion or suspension of a Brother from a Royal Arch Chapter, or a Commandery of Knights Templar, shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from the Lodge of which he is a member.

SECTION 139. No Lodge shall suspend or expel a member from the rights of Masonry for non-payment of dues. The penalty of such delinquency shall be forfeiture or suspension of membership; and that only after due trial, as in other Masonic misdemeanors.

SECTION 140. Whenever the Grand Lodge shall reverse or abrogate the decision of a particular Lodge, suspending or expelling a Brother, and shall restore him to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, he shall not thereby be restored to

membership within the body from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent.

SECTION 141. The Grand Lodge has power to try and punish its own members for any offence. In case of complaint against any member of the Grand Lodge, Master of any particular Lodge, or any Lodge, the Grand Master may refer the same to a Committee of five Past Masters, by a commission under his hand and seal, who shall notify the parties and proceed with the hearing agreeably to the rules for the regulation of particular Lodges, so far as the same may be applicable, and shall forthwith return to the Grand Master, with the commission, attested copies of all their proceedings, together with their findings in both matters of law and fact, with any recommendation they deem proper. Upon such return the Grand Master may restore the accused or suspend him till the pleasure of the Grand Lodge be known, and shall submit all the papers to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication, for their action.

SECTION 142. No Lodge, or any member thereof, shall, without permission of the Grand Lodge, publish, or in any way make known the expulsion of a Brother, except to the Fraternity, or within the Lodge, farther than to state verbally the fact, whenever the honor, interests or reputation of Masonry may seem to demand it.

P A R T V.

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

ARTICLE XVIII. Of Committees, &c.
XIX. Rules for government of the Grand Lodge.
XX. Amendments.

ARTICLE XVIII.

OF COMMITTEES, ETC.

SECTION—

143. Committee of Charity.
144. No certificate to be granted to solicit charity.
145. Standing Committees.
146. G.'. M.'. may refer any question in recess to Committee on Jurisprudence.
147. None but members on Committees.

SECTION—

148. Chairmen and reports.
149. Expenses how paid.
150. Recosideration.
151. Members to have only one vote.
152. Records to be read.
153. No funds of Grand Lodge to be used except for Masonic purposes.

SECTION 143. The Grand Master and Grand Wardens, for the time being, shall constitute a Committee of Charity.

SECTION 144. No Lodge, or Officer, or member of a Lodge, shall, under any circumstances, give a certificate or recommendation to enable a Mason to go from Lodge to Lodge as a pauper, or in an itinerant manner to apply to Lodges for relief.

SECTION 145. The Grand Master, or presiding Officer, shall, at each Annual Communication, nominate the following Committees, to consist of three each, to be confirmed by the Grand Lodge, and continue in office until the next Annual Communication, namely :

A Committee on Credentials ;
on Finance ;
on Foreign Correspondence ;
on Unfinished Business ;
on Lodges ;
on Returns ;
on Doings of the Grand Officers ;
on Trials and Appeals.
on Jurisprudence.

SECTION 146. The Grand Master may refer any question of law or usage arising in the recess of the Grand Lodge, to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who may report to the Grand Master, or to the Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication.

SECTION 147. No Brother, not a member of the Grand Lodge, shall be appointed on any Committee therein. This, however, is not intended to militate against the right of the Grand Master to commission any Brother in writing, for a specific purpose.

SECTION 148. All Committees, chosen or appointed, shall report their proceedings in writing, at the same Communication with their appointment, unless otherwise directed by the Grand Lodge. The first Brother chosen or appointed, shall be chairman, and shall duly notify each of the Committee of the time and place of meeting.

SECTION 149. The expenses of all Committees shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 150. No vote passed in the Grand Lodge, or in a particular Lodge, can be reconsidered by a less number than were present when the vote was passed.

SECTION 151. No Officer or member of this Grand Lodge shall be entitled to more than one vote, either in his own right or as proxy.

SECTION 152. At every Communication of the Grand Lodge, the records of the preceding Communication shall be read by the Grand Secretary before the Lodge proceeds to business, unless otherwise ordered by vote of the Grand Lodge.

SECTION 153. No portion of the funds of this Grand Lodge shall be appropriated or used for any purpose, except for defraying the necessary expenses of the Grand Lodge, the promotion of the interests of the Institution, and the relief of distressed worthy Brethren, their widows and orphans.

ARTICLE XIX.

RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GRAND LODGE.

SECTION 154. *Rule 1.* None but members of the Grand Lodge, Past Officers of other Grand Lodges excepted, shall be

present at the opening of the same, nor shall any visitor be admitted during the session except by permission of the Grand Master, and by vote of the Grand Lodge.

Rule 2. Members and visitors shall keep the seats assigned them, except the Grand Marshal, and Officers whose duties may call them about the Lodge.

Rule 3. All resolutions shall be submitted in writing, before there shall be any debate upon them; as shall all motions, if the presiding Officer, or any Brother, desire it.

Rule 4. In all elections, and upon every question which may come before the Grand Lodge for decision, each member present shall be entitled to one vote only, except upon a call of any five members, in which case the vote shall be taken by Lodges, and each Lodge represented shall then be entitled to four votes, all of which shall be on the same side; and the representatives of each Lodge respectively may decide on which side of the question the votes of their Lodge shall be cast. The other members of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to one vote each. A member cannot delegate his right of voting to another.

Rule 5. Each member shall vote on all questions, unless excused by the Grand Lodge.

Rule 6. Every member who speaks shall rise, and remain standing, addressing himself to the Grand Presiding Officer; nor shall he be interrupted unless by a call to order from the presiding Officer, or from some member of the Grand Lodge.

Rule 7. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except to lay on the table, to commit, to amend, or to postpone, which motions shall take precedence in the order above named.

Rule 8. A motion to amend, until decided, shall preclude all other amendments of the main question.

Rule 9. Any member may call for a division of the question, where the same will admit of it.

Rule 10. No new motion, which totally changes the subject matter on which the original motion was intended to operate, shall be admitted, under color of amendment, as a substitute for the motion under debate.

Rule 11. No member, except one of the majority which

decided the question, shall be allowed to move for a reconsideration.

Rule 12. After a motion is stated by the Grand Presiding Officer, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of the Grand Lodge, but may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment.

Rule 13. There shall be no debate upon any question after it has been put by the Grand Presiding Officer.

Rule 14. All motions and reports may be committed at the pleasure of the Grand Lodge.

Rule 15. While the Grand Presiding Officer is addressing the Grand Lodge, or putting a question, or a Brother is speaking, no member shall entertain any private discourse, or pass between the speaker and the chair.

Rule 16. No Brother shall leave the Grand Lodge during the session, without permission of the Grand Master.

Rule 17. No Brother shall speak more than twice upon the same question, unless to explain, without permission from the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE XX.

AMENDMENTS.

SECTION 155. The Grand Lodge shall have full power and authority to make such amendments, alterations and additions to this Constitution, at any regular Communication, as they shall think proper and expedient for the benefit of the Craft; provided such amendment, alteration or addition, be preposed in writing, at an Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, be filed with the Grand Secretary, and lay over for consideration till the next Annual Communication; and such proposed amendment, alteration, or addition, when acted upon, may be amended as the Grand Lodge shall deem proper; provided, also, that the ancient landmarks of Masonry be carefully preserved.

APPENDIX.

FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

*Prepared by order of the Grand Lodge, and directed to be
printed with the Constitution.*

〔 1 〕

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY, IN GRAND LODGE, OF MASTER
OR WARDEN OF A PARTICULAR LODGE.

(SECTION 4.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

Witness my hand and seal at , this day of ,
A. D. 18 .

[2]

FORM OF DEPUTATION BY THE GRAND MASTER.

(SECTION 26.)

To all the Fraternity to whom these Presents shall come:

Know ye, That I, , Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire, reposing full trust and confidence in the care, skill and good con-

(1)

duct of our (*R.·. W.·.*) Brother , do hereby appoint and depute the said (*R.·. W.·.*) Brother , in my name and place, *to fully constitute, solemnly consecrate, and dedicate Lodge, No. , to whom a Warrant of Constitution has been issued by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and to install its Officers in (due) form, according to the ancient usages and customs of the Craft; at such time within days hereof, as the said shall appoint*, and for so doing this shall be his sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand and seal, at , this day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

[L. S.]

A. B., *Grand Master.*

In place of the clause in italics, clauses may be inserted: To dedicate a Hall, lay a Corner Stone, or perform any other act, which it may be the desire of the Grand Master to have done.

[3]

FORM OF GRAND TREASURER'S BOND.

(SECTION 34.)

Know all Men by these Presents:

That we, of , in the County of , and State of New Hampshire, as Principal; and , and , of , as Sureties, are holden and stand firmly bound unto , Grand Master of Masons in New Hampshire, in trust for the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire, in the sum of dollars, to the payment whereof, we hereby jointly and severally bind ourselves and our heirs respectively, firmly by these Presents, sealed with our seals, and dated this day of , A. D. 18 .

The condition of this obligation is such, That if the said , who has been elected Grand Treasurer of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge aforesaid, shall well and truly discharge and perform all the duties of Grand Treasurer of said Grand Lodge, for the term of one year, and for such farther term or terms as he may be re-elected, according to the Constitution and General Regulations of said Grand Lodge, and especially shall safely keep all funds and other property of said Grand Lodge, or which may be deposited with said Grand Lodge, shall keep true and just accounts of the same, pay such orders as may be drawn upon him agreeably to said Constitution and General Regulations, or the vote of said Grand Lodge, and annually, and at such other times as may be required by the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master, lay before said Grand Lodge or Grand Master, a particular statement of his accounts, and of the funds and property in his hands, and

at the close of his term, shall pay over and deliver to his successor in said office of Grand Treasurer, all books, papers, funds, or property of any kind in his possession as Grand Treasurer, then this obligation to be void.

A. B.	[L. S.]
C. D.	[L. S.]
E. F.	[L. S.]

[4]

FORM OF GRAND SECRETARY'S BOND.

(SECTION 43.)

Know all Men by these Presents :

That we, , of , in the County of , and State of New Hampshire, as Principal, and , and , of , as Sureties, are holden and stand firmly bound unto , Grand Master of Masons in New Hampshire, in trust for the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire, in the sum of dollars, to the payment whereof, we hereby jointly and severally bind ourselves and our heirs respectively, firmly by these Presents, sealed with our seals, and dated this day of , A. D. 18 .

The condition of this obligation is such, That if the said , who has been elected Grand Secretary of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge aforesaid, shall well and truly discharge and perform all the duties of Grand Secretary of said Grand Lodge, for the term of one year, and for such farther term or terms as he may be re-elected, according to the Constitution and General Regulations of said Grand Lodge, and especially shall receive all moneys that may be paid to him as Grand Secretary, and pay the same over to the Grand Treasurer, keep accurate accounts between said Grand Lodge and the Particular Lodges, and annually, and at such other times as may be required by the Grand Lodge, or Grand Master, lay before said Grand Lodge, or Grand Master, a statement of his accounts, and of the accounts between said Grand Lodge and the particular Lodges, and at the close of his term, deliver to his successor in said office of Grand Secretary, all books, papers, funds or property of any kind in his possession as Grand Secretary, then this obligation to be void.

A. B.	[L. S.]
C. D.	[L. S.]
E. F.	[L. S.]

The Constitution requires certain steps to be taken before a Dispensation shall be granted for a new Lodge. It is believed that the Forms following contain nothing but what is essential should appear before the Dispensation be granted.

The Brethren desirous of forming a new Lodge, first prepare and sign a petition therefor, in the form prescribed in Sec. 65 of the Constitution; this petition is then submitted to the two nearest Lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge, for their approbation and recommendation, at stated communications of such Lodges, notice thereof having been given at previous stated communications.

[5]

FORM OF APPROBATION AND RECOMMENDATION BY NEAREST

PARTICULAR LODGE.

(SECTION 61.)

At a stated Communication of Lodge, No. , holden at , on the day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 :

The petition of several Brethren, praying for a Dispensation to open a new Lodge at , in the County of , was duly laid before the Lodge, pursuant to notice given at a stated Communication on the day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 , when it was

Resolved, That this Lodge, being fully satisfied that the petitioners are Master Masons in good standing, and being prepared to vouch for their moral character and Masonic abilities, does approve the formation of such new Lodge, and recommend that the Dispensation prayed for be granted them.

A true copy of the record.

[L. S.]

A. B., *Secretary,*
Lodge, No. .

Having obtained such approbation and recommendation from the two nearest Lodges, the petition and recommendations should be submitted to the D. D. G. M. of the District, for his approval and recommendation.

[6]

FORM OF APPROVAL AND RECOMMENDATION BY D. D. G. M. .

(SECTION 61.)

The petition of several Brethren, praying for a Dispensation to open a new Lodge at , in the County of , with the approbation and recommendation of Lodge, No. , holden at , miles from the proposed location of said new Lodge, and of Lodge, No. , holden at , miles from said proposed location, has been laid before me; and being

fully satisfied that the petitioners are Master Masons, and being prepared to vouch for their moral character and Masonic abilities, and believing such new Lodge will be for the good of the Craft, I approve the formation of such new Lodge, and recommend that the Dispensation prayed for be granted to them.

Dated this day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., D.·. D.·. G.·. M.·. —th Masonic Dist.

If a majority of the petitioners are members of a regular Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, they must also have the certificate of the Master and Wardens sanctioning the separation.

[7]

FORM OF SANCTION OF MASTER AND WARDENS.

(SECTION 63.)

The petition of several Brethren, a majority of whom are members of Lodge, No. , praying for a Dispensation to open a new Lodge at , in the County of , has been laid before us, and having considered the same, we hereby sanction and approve the separation of said Brethren from Lodge, No. , and the formation of such new Lodge.

Given under our hands at , this day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., W.·. Master,
C. D., Senior Warden, } Lodge, No. .
E. F., Junior Warden,

The Master and Wardens named in the Dispensation, then go before the Grand Lecturer of the District, and are by him examined as to their skill in the Work and Lectures, which should be entire familiarity with all the Work and Lectures in the three degrees.

[8]

FORM OF GRAND LECTURER'S CERTIFICATE.

(SECTION 62.)

In accordance with the provisions of Sec. 62 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, I have carefully and fully examined , recommended to be Worshipful Master, and , and , recommended to be Senior and Junior Wardens, of a new Lodge, to be opened at , in the County of , and find them well skilled in the entire Work and Lectures of Ancient Craft Masonry.

Given under my hand at , this day of , A. D. 18 ,

A. B., *Grand Lecturer, —th Masonic Dist.*

These several papers having been procured, should be forwarded, with the receipt of the Grand Secretary for the Dispensation fee, to the Grand Master, who will consider the same, and if he deem it best for the interests of the whole Craft, he will issue his Dispensation, which may be in the following form :

[9]

FORM OF DISPENSATION.

(SECTIONS 22 & 60.)

To all whom it may concern :

Know ye, That I, , Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire, having received a petition from a constitutional number of Brethren, who have been properly vouched for as Master Masons in good standing, setting forth, that having the honor and prosperity of the Craft at heart, they are desirous of establishing a new Lodge at , and requesting a Dispensation for the same ; which petition is accompanied by the approbation and recommendation of the two Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge nearest the place where the new Lodge is to be held, and of the District Deputy Grand Master of that District, and the certificate of the Grand Lecturer, that he has examined the Master and Wardens nominated in the petition, and found them well skilled in the entire Work and Lectures of Ancient Craft Masonry, and the sanction of the Master and Wardens of Lodge, No. , of which a majority of the petitioners are members : and good and sufficient cause appearing to me for granting the prayer of said petition : I do, by virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, and the ancient usages of the Craft, grant this my Dispensation, empowering Brothers , , , to meet as a regular Lodge at , by the name of Lodge ; and I do hereby appoint Brother , to act as Worshipful Master, Brother , to act as Senior Warden, and Brother , to act as Junior Warden of the said Lodge : and I do further authorize the said Brethren to enter Apprentices, pass Fellow Crafts, and raise Master Masons, according to the ancient usages and landmarks of the Craft, and the Constitution and Regulations of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, and not otherwise.

And this my Dispensation shall continue in force until the next Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, at which time I require and enjoin the said Brethren to return this Dispensation to the Grand Lodge aforesaid, together with an attested transcript of all their proceedings under the same, and their By-Laws, that the said Grand Lodge may advise thereon.

Given under my hand, and the seal of the Grand Lodge, at , this day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

[L. S.]

A. B., *Grand Master.*

C. D., *Grand Secretary.*

At the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, the new Lodge returns to the Grand Lodge the Dispensation, with an attested transcript of their proceedings under it, and the By-Laws they have adopted. It is not absolutely required that they should present a petition for a Warrant, yet that course would seem advisable, and such petition may be in the following form :

[10]

FORM OF PETITION FOR WARRANT OF CONSTITUTION.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire :

The undersigned respectfully represent, that they have, for some time past, met as a regular Lodge at , under the name of Lodge, by virtue of a Dispensation from Most Worshipful , Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire, which Dispensation with an attested transcript of our proceedings, and our By-Laws, is herewith returned.

We would therefore pray, that a Warrant of Constitution be granted us for the said Lodge, which prayer being granted, we promise strict obedience to the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and regular attendance on its Communications.

Dated the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

If a Lodge vote to remove, in accordance with Sections 69 and 70 of the Constitution, the following forms may be used.

[11]

FORM OF PETITION FOR REMOVAL OF A LODGE.

(SECTION 70.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

The undersigned respectfully represent, that Lodge, No. , has heretofore met at , in the County of , that we are desirous to remove said Lodge to ; that at a stated Communication of said Lodge, held on the day of , A. . L. . 58 , notice of our desire to remove was openly given in said Lodge; that every member of said Lodge was specially summoned to attend a stated Communication of said Lodge, held on the day of , A. . L. . 58 , for the express purpose of taking the subject of removal into consideration, at which last Communication the Lodge deemed such removal expedient; that there are members of said Lodge: wherefore, we pray for permission to remove said Lodge to .

Dated the day of A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

This petition should be accompanied by a copy of the proceedings of the Lodge in the matter, attested by the Secretary, and the certificate of the Master and Secretary of the number of members. It must also be accompanied by the approbation of the two nearest Lodges.

[12]

FORM OF APPROBATION FOR REMOVAL OF LODGE BY THE NEAREST PARTICULAR LODGES.

(SECTION 70.)

At a stated Communication of Lodge, No. , holden at , on the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

The vote of Lodge, No. , heretofore meeting at , in the County of , deeming its removal to expedient, was duly laid before the Lodge; when it was

Resolved, That this Lodge approve the removal of Lodge, No. , from , to .

A true copy of the records.

[L. s.]

A. B., *Secretary.*

If it is desired to revive a dormant Lodge in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 76 of the Constitution, the following forms may be used.

[13]

FORM OF PETITION FOR RESTORATION OF WARRANT WHICH
HAS BEEN SURRENDERED WITH THE INTENTION OF
RESUMING IT.

(SECTION 76.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire:

The undersigned, Master Masons, respectfully represent, that on the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , Lodge, No. , holding a Warrant of Constitution from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, for certain reasons surrendered their Warrant to the said Grand Lodge, with the intention, expressed in said surrender, of resuming the same at some future and more auspicious period; that we are now desirous of resuming the said Warrant, and of working under the same; wherefore we (the first having been members of said Lodge at the time of such surrender), pray that the said Warrant, together with the By-Laws, records, seal, clothing, funds and other property of said Lodge, may be restored to us, and we be authorized to meet and work as a regular Lodge, agreeably to the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and the ancient landmarks of the Craft.

Dated at , this day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

To be signed by at least seven Master Masons, at least four of whom were members of the Lodge at the time of its surrender of the Warrant.

[14]

FORM OF PETITION FOR RESTORATION OF WARRANT WHICH
HAS BEEN SURRENDERED ABSOLUTELY, FORFEITED,
OR REVOKED.

(SECTION 76.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire:

The undersigned, Master Masons, respectfully represent, that on the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , the Warrant of Constitution of Lodge, No. , was (*surrendered to said Grand Lodge*), (*declared to be forfeited by said Grand Lodge*), (*revoked*)

by said Grand Lodge). That we are desirous of reviving the said Lodge: Wherefore we (the first having been members of said Lodge at the time of such [surrender], [forfeiture, and not having been implicated in any improper or unmasonic conduct], [revocation, and not having been implicated in any improper or unmasonic conduct]), pray that the said Warrant may be restored to us, and we be authorized to meet and work as a regular Lodge, agreeably to the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and the ancient landmarks of the Craft.

Dated at , this day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 .

To be signed by at least seven Master Masons, at least four of whom were members of the Lodge at the time of the surrender, forfeiture, or revocation of its Warrant.

Under the new Constitution, it is believed this can only be done by the Grand Lodge, and not by the Grand Master.

Accompanying either of the above petitions, should be the approval of the two nearest Lodges in this State, and of the D. D. G. M. .

[15]

FORM OF APPROBATION FOR RESTORATION OF WARRANT BY
NEAREST PARTICULAR LODGES.

(SECTION 76.)

At a stated Communication of Lodge, No. , holden at , on the day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 .

The petition of several Brethren, at least four of whom were members of Lodge, No. , whose Warrant has been (surrendered), (forfeited), (revoked), praying for the restoration of such Warrant, was duly laid before the Lodge, when it was

Resolved, That this Lodge approve the restoration of the Warrant of Lodge, No. , to the petitioners therefor.

A true copy of the records.

[L. S.]

A. B., *Secretary.*

[16]

FORM OF APPROVAL BY D. D. G. M. OF RESTORATION OF
WARRANT.

(SECTION 76.)

The petition of several Brethren, at least four of whom were members of Lodge, No. , whose Warrant has been (surrendered), (forfeited), (revoked), praying for the restoration

of such Warrant, with the approbation of Lodge, No. ,
holden at , miles from said Lodge, and
Lodge, No. , holden at , miles from said
Lodge, No. , has been laid before me, and being satisfied that
the petitioners are Master Masons, of whom the first were
members of said Lodge, No. , and believing such res-
toration will be for the good of the Craft, I approve the restoration
of said Warrant.

Dated this day of , A. M. L. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., D., D., G., M., —th Masonic Dist.

The form of return is to be prescribed by the Grand Secretary from time to time, and as the necessary blanks are furnished the Lodges, it is deemed unnecessary to give any form here. The return should give the exact date of every degree conferred in the Lodge for the year, in the order in which the degrees were conferred, and this, although the candidate was returned the previous year, as having received a lower degree. It should contain the full name of each Officer and member, and the names of the Officers should not be repeated among the members. It should be made out and sent, with the dues, to the Grand Secretary immediately after the 15th of April, and *in no event* should it be retained till the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

〔 17 〕

FORM OF PETITION TO BE MADE A MASON.

(SECTION 106.)

*To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of
Lodge, No. , of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons:*

The petition of the subscriber, respectfully represents, that having long entertained a favorable opinion of your ancient Institution, he is desirous, if found worthy, of being admitted a member thereof.

His age is years, his place of residence , his occupation . He has never before made application as a candidate to any Lodge.

(*Signed*).

A B

If he has before been a candidate, in place of the last clause should be the following:

He has on the day of , made application to Lodge,
No. . and been (*accepted or rejected as the case may be*).

[18]

FORM OF RECOMMENDATION OF CANDIDATE.

(SECTION 106.)

We are personally acquainted with the above applicant, and from a confidence in his integrity, and the uprightness of his intention, recommend and propose him as a proper candidate for the mysteries of Masonry.

A. B.
C. D.

It will be found convenient to have printed with the petition, a receipt for the Initiation fee, certificate of reference to Committee, and their report, which will then present the whole transaction in one document.

[19]

FORM OF CONSENT BY A LODGE, THAT A CANDIDATE WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION MAY APPLY TO ANOTHER LODGE.

(SECTIONS III AND 112.)

At a stated communication of Lodge No. , (*on the registry of the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of* ,) holden at , on the day of , A.: L.: 58 , A. D. 18 .

The application of (*lately*) resident of , within the jurisdiction of this Lodge, for the consent of this Lodge, that he may apply for and receive the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry in Lodge No. , holden at , was duly laid before the Lodge, when it was unanimously

Resolved, That this Lodge consent, that may apply for and receive the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry in Lodge, No. , holden at , they making due inquiry into his character.

A true copy of the records.

[L. s.]

A. B., *Secretary.*

The words in the first parenthesis to be inserted when the Lodge is not subordinate to the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, otherwise omitted.

The word "lately" in the second parenthesis, to be inserted when the candidate has not resided in the jurisdiction of the Lodge twelve months.

This consent should be inexorably refused when any doubt exists of the worthiness of the candidate, and if the least doubt occurs, the Worshipful Master should order the secret ballot thereon.

[20]

FORM OF PERMISSION, BY THE GRAND MASTER OF ANOTHER STATE, FOR THE APPLICATION FOR THE DEGREES IN ANY LODGE IN THIS STATE.

(SECTION 112.)

To all to whom these Presents shall come:

Whereas, application has been made to me, by (lately) a resident of , within the jurisdiction of Lodge, No. , on the Registry of the M. W. Grand Lodge of , for permission to apply for and receive the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry in Lodge, No. , on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, which application is accompanied by the consent of said Lodge, No. , granted at a stated Communication, which consent under the seal of the Lodge is hereto annexed.

Therefore, Know ye, that I, , Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in , hereby grant this, my permission, that the said , may apply for and receive the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry in said Lodge, No. .

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and private seal, this day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 .

[L. s.]

A. B., *Grand Master.*

[21]

FORM OF CONSENT THAT A REJECTED CANDIDATE MAY APPLY TO ANOTHER LODGE.

(SECTION 115.)

At a stated Communication of Lodge, No. , holden at , on the day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 .

The application of , who was rejected in this Lodge on the day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 , on his application to be made a Mason, for the recommendation of this Lodge to Lodge No. , was duly laid before the Lodge, pursuant to notice given at a stated Communication on the day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 , when the secret ballot having been passed, he was thereby unanimously recommended to said Lodge No. .

A true copy of the records.

[L. s.]

A. B., *Secretary,*

[22]

FORM OF CONSENT THAT E. A. OR F. C. MAY APPLY
FOR AND RECEIVE THE REMAINING DEGREES IN
ANOTHER LODGE.

(SECTION 121.)

At a stated Communication of Lodge No. , holden at , on the day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 . The application of , who was initiated as an E. A. on the day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 , and passed to the degree of F. C. on the day of A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 , in this Lodge, for the consent of this Lodge, that he may apply for and receive the remaining degrees in Lodge, No. , was duly laid before the Lodge, when it was

Resolved, That this Lodge consent that , an E. A. (or a F. C.), may apply for and receive the remaining degrees in Lodge, No. , they making due inquiry into his character.

A true copy of the records,

[L. S.] .

A. B., *Secretary*.

[23]

FORM OF RECOMMENDATION TO JOIN ANOTHER LODGE.

(SECTION 125.)

To all whom it may concern :

This is to certify that Brother is, at the date of these presents, a Master Mason in good and regular standing, and a member of Lodge, No. , and having paid all dues, and being free from all charges, he is, at his own request, by vote of said Lodge, recommended to Lodge, No. , for membership therein; if elected and received in said Lodge, No. , then his membership in this Lodge shall cease from the date of such reception; if not received by said Lodge, then his membership in this Lodge remain unaffected hereby.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Lodge, at , this day of , A. L. 58 , A. D. 18 .

[L. S.]

A. B., *Secretary*,
Lodge, No. .

The above should be used whenever it is desired to change the membership from one Lodge to another. If it is desired to retire from the Lodge membership altogether, the following may be used.

[24]

FORM OF DIMIT.

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that Brother _____ is, at the date of these presents, a Master Mason in good and regular standing, and having paid all dues, and being free from all charges, he is, at his own request, by vote of the Lodge, dimitted from membership in _____ Lodge, No. _____, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Lodge, at _____, this _____ day of _____, A. S. L. 58, A. D. 18.

[L. S.]

A. B., *Secretary,*
Lodge, No. _____.

In the preparation of the Forms and Instructions under Art. XVII., I am greatly indebted to R. W. Brother WILLIAM BARRETT, who prepared complete Forms and Instructions for trials by Commissioners, under the New York practice, which the Committee on the Constitution were not inclined to recommend. But Bro. BARRETT kindly placed his manuscript in my hands for use in preparing the following,

FORMS OF TRIALS AND APPEALS.

(SECTION 129.)

The first step toward a Masonic Trial is to prefer charges, or make a complaint. The requisites of a complaint are, that it be brief, and yet definite; clearly pointing out the nature of the offense charged, with an accurate specification of the time, place and circumstances of its commission. This may be preferred by any Brother, but more appropriately, by the Junior Warden, under whose charge the Brethren are when at refreshment.

[25]

FORM OF COMPLAINT.

(RULE 1.)

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of _____ Lodge, No. _____.

Brother _____ is hereby charged with immoral and unmasonic conduct in the matters following:

First specification, *That the said _____, on the _____ day of _____, A. S. L. 58, in a public street at _____, was in a state of intoxication from the use of strong and spirituous liquors, in violation of his duty as a Mason, and to the scandal and disgrace of the Craft.*

Second specification, *That the said* on the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , at said , and at divers other times and places between that time and the date of these charges, was intoxicated by strong and spirituous liquors, although admonished therefor by the Master and Wardens of this Lodge, in violation of his duty as a Mason, and to the scandal and disgrace of the Craft.

It is therefore demanded, that the said be tried for the said offenses according to Masonic law and usage.

Dated the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., Junior Warden.

A new specification should be added for each separate state of facts constituting a Masonic offense. The specification should be stated as it is expected to be proved, with reasonable certainty as to time, place and circumstances, shortly, but distinctly. A few forms are given, but it is obviously impossible to prepare a form for each case that may occur; it is hoped, as no technicality is required, the forms given may suggest the form in other cases.

[26]

FOR SLANDER.

That the said did, on the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , at , in the presence and hearing of and others, use the following slanderous words of and concerning (here insert the name of person or Lodge slandered), (then set out the words used as near as possible).

[27]

FOR CHEATING.

That the said , on the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , at , did wrong, cheat and defraud (here insert the name of the person or Lodge defrauded), by (here insert a description of the method of cheating used).

[28]

FOR THREATENING TO INJURE THE LODGE BY BLACKBALLING CANDIDATES.

That the said , on the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , at , did threaten to impede the work of the Lodge, by an improper use of the blackball, in the following language (here insert the language used as perfectly as possible).

The charge should be given to the Secretary; the Master then directs a *special* Communication of the Lodge to be called to act upon the subject, and also directs the Secretary to notify the accused, by serving him with an attested copy of the charges and specifications, and a summons for his appearance before the Lodge.

[29]

FORM OF NOTICE TO THE ACCUSED.

(RULE 1.)

To Brother

Take notice, that the within (or foregoing) is a copy of the complaint and specifications preferred against you in Lodge, No. ; and that the Worshipful Master has called a special Communication of said Lodge, to be held on the day of , A. . L. . 58 ; A. D. 18 , at o'clock, P. M., to consider said charges, and you are summoned and required to be present at the Lodge-room of said Lodge at that time, to make answer to said complaint and specifications, and receive the award of the Lodge thereon.

Dated the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., *Secretary,*
Lodge, No. .

The Constitution requires the notice to be a seasonable one,—that is, such notice as will give the accused time to obtain counsel, if he desires, to answer the charges, and to procure his evidence; no absolute rule as to time can be given, as what would be seasonable would vary with the nature of the charge, and the distance of the accused and witnesses from the Lodge. It should always be such that the same may be fairly heard.

The Secretary should keep a duplicate copy of the notice to the accused, which should be attached to the original complaint and specifications, and upon which he should make a return of the time and manner of service.

[30]

FORM OF RETURN OF SERVICE OF NOTICE TO THE ACCUSED.

(RULE 1.)

I certify that on the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 , (I gave the within-named , in hand), a notice, of which the above is a true copy, together with a true and attested copy of the charges and specifications hereto attached.

Dated the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., *Secretary*
Lodge, No. .

In place of the clause in parenthesis may be either of the following, as the truth may be :

[31]

(I left at the abode of the within-named , enclosed in an envelope, securely sealed and directed to him).

[32]

(I deposited in the post-office at , enclosed in an envelope, securely sealed, and directed as follows (*give the direction on the letter exactly as sent*), "If not called for within ten days return to , N. H.," and paid the postage thereon, which letter has [not] been returned to me).

The Secretary should also notify the Complainant.

[33]

FORM OF NOTICE TO COMPLAINANT.

To Brother ,

Take notice, that the Worshipful Master has called a special Communication of Lodge, No. , at the Lodge-room of said Lodge, on , the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 , at o'clock, P. M., to consider the charges and specifications made by you against Brother , and Brother has been duly notified to be present.

Dated the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., Secretary,
Lodge, No. .

To this a return should be made in the same manner as of the notice to the accused, the form of which may be altered for the purpose.

The accused should, at the day of hearing, make answer to the charges. It is not essential that this should be in writing, but that the record may be fully made up, the following form is recommended :

[34]

FORM OF ANSWER BY ACCUSED.

A. B., in answer to the charges and specifications against him, says, that he is not guilty of either of them as set forth by the accuser.

Dated the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B.

The answer may vary according to the facts in each case. The specifications may be admitted in part, and denied in part, or admitted and other matters pleaded in extenuation or mitigation. But as any advantage of that kind can as well be had at the trial on a general denial of the whole charge, it will usually be found that the form given will be most convenient.

To procure the attendance of witnesses on either side, if they are Masons, the Master will issue a summons to compel their attendance, which they are bound to obey, and should they refuse, without sufficient excuse, they may be punished therefor, as guilty of unmasonic conduct. They may attend voluntarily, when of course no summons is necessary. If they are not Masons, their attendance is of course wholly voluntary.

[35]

FORM OF SUMMONS TO MASON AS WITNESS.

To Brother

You are hereby summoned and required to attend a special Communication of Lodge, No. , to be held at their Lodge-room, on the day of A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 , at o'clock, P. M., and there testify what you know relative to a complaint made by Brother against Brother .

Dated the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., *Master,*
Lodge, No. .

The person serving the summons should make upon a copy of it a return of the time and mode of service.

[36]

FORM OF RETURN OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS OF WITNESS.

I certify that on the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 , I gave to the within-named , in hand, a summons, of which the above is a true copy.

A. B.

If the service was made in any other mode, as by leaving it at his house, &c., the return should state the exact mode of service.

Should occasion arise for taking the deposition of a witness, the Master should issue a commission to some suitable person, if possible a Master Mason, to take such deposition.

[37]

FORM OF COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION.

(RULE 4.)

To

You are hereby authorized to take the deposition in writing of , of what he knows relating to a complaint and specifications made to Lodge, No. , by Brother against Brother .

You will give reasonable notice, in writing, to both parties, of the time and place appointed by you for taking such deposition; the deponent will testify upon his honor; both parties may be present with their counsel, and put such questions as they may please and are relevant. If any question be proposed to the propriety or relevancy of which objection is made, you will write the question at length as asked; you will then write the objection, after which you will propose the question to the deponent, and write his answer, in the exact words used by him as near as possible. The deposition being completed, you will read the same to the deponent, and after he has signed it, you will securely seal the same, together with this commission and your return of your doings thereon, in an envelope in his presence, and return the same to Lodge, No. .

Dated the day of , A. S. L. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., *Master*
Lodge, No. .

[38]

NOTICE TO PARTIES OF TAKING DEPOSITION.

(RULE 4.)

To Brother , and Brother .

Take notice, That on the day of , A. S. L. 58 , A. D. 18 , at , in , at o'clock in the noon, by virtue of a commission sent to me from Worshipful Brother , Master of Lodge, No. , I shall take the deposition of , of what he knows relating to a complaint and specifications made to Lodge, No. , by Brother against Brother .

Dated the day of , A. S. L. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., *appointed to take*
such deposition.

A return of the service should be made as in other cases.

No particular form is necessary in the deposition, the only object being to give, so far as practicable, the language and manner of the witness. If either party desires it, the questions and answers may both be written. If objection is made to any question as leading or irrelevant, or for any other cause, the question, the objection, and the answer should each be written, that the Lodge may judge of the propriety of the question and answer. If any objection is made to the person appointed to take the deposition, or to any other part of the proceedings, it should be made and noted in the return to the commission. The commencement of the deposition may be as follows:

[39]

FORM OF COMMENCEMENT OF DEPOSITION.

(RULE 4.)

I, , of , on my honor (*as a Mason*), depose and say, &c. &c.

[40]

FORM OF RETURN ON COMMISSION TO TAKE A DEPOSITION.

(RULE 4.)

Pursuant to the annexed commission, on the day of , A. D. 18 , I notified both the parties in writing, that on the day of , A. D. 18 , at , in , at o'clock, in the noon, I should take the deposition of the said , and at said time and place the appended deposition was given, the parties being present and putting such questions as they pleased. After such deposition had been reduced to writing, it was by me read to said deponent, who afterward signed the same.

(*The accused objected to the person appointed to take the deposition, because he was not a Mason*).

(*The complainant objected to the caption, because the notice given him was too short to enable him to get his counsel present*).

Dated the day of , A. D. 18 .

A. B., appointed to take
such deposition.

If either party was not present, the return should show who was present and who absent.

If any other objection is made to the deposition, or any part of it, the person appointed to take it will not attempt to judge of the validity of the objection, but will return it, with such facts as may be necessary to the proper understanding of it, to the Lodge for their judgment. He should place the commission, copy of notice

to the parties, return of service thereon, and the deposition, in an envelope, securely seal the same, and direct it as follows :

[41]

FORM OF DIRECTION ON SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING
DEPOSITION AND OTHER PAPERS.

To Lodge, No. , of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons :

Enclosed is the deposition and accompanying papers of , taken to be used in the matter of the complaint of Brother against Brother , now pending in said Lodge. Taken and sealed up by me, in the presence of the deponent, this day of , A. S. L. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., appointed to take
such deposition.

If any papers are produced, they should be marked with letters or numbers, and referred to thereby in the deposition, and then attached to it.

On the day appointed, the W. Master opens a speial Communication of the Lodge on the third degree, when the complaint, specifications, notices to the accused and to the complainant, and the answer of the accused, are read. If any objection exists to the regularity of any of the proceedings, it should then be made, when the Lodge will proceed to determine it. There being none, or having been overruled, the evidence is then presented. If any objection is made to any part of the evidence, the Lodge will by vote determine upon it. The evidence having all been presented, the counsel or the parties will be permitted to make such remarks, pertinent to the case, as they may wish, when the parties with their counsel will retire, and the Lodge will then proceed to determine the question of guilt and the nature of the punishment.

[42]

FORM OF RECORD OF SPECIAL COMMUNICATION FOR THE
PURPOSE OF MASONIC TRIAL.

(RULE 10.)

A special Communication of Lodge, No. , of A. F. and A. M., was held at , on , the day of , A. S. L. 58 , A. D. 18 , at o'clock, P. M. Present : W. A. B., Master, &c.

(The full Christian and surname, with the initials at least of all middle names, of all Officers and members should appear. If there are visitors, as none can be admitted but members of the Grand Lodge, the record should show their rank, and their right as members of the Grand Lodge).

The Lodge was opened in due form on the third degree in Masonry.

This Communication was called for the special purpose of considering the complaint and specifications made by Brother against Brother

The complaint, specifications, notices, returns, and answer of the accused, having been read,

Brother was appointed to take minutes of the evidence, &c., to be preserved on the files of the Lodge.

The evidence, as well on the part of the accused as on that of the complainant, was then presented and heard by the Lodge.

The parties with their counsel then retired.

The question, "Is the accused guilty or not guilty?" was then distinctly put to each member of the Lodge present, by name, commencing with the youngest, when the following Brethren said he was guilty: (*Here give the names of all those who voted guilty*).

And the following Brethren said he was not guilty: (*Here give the names of all those who voted not guilty*).

A majority of the members present find the accused to be guilty.

The question, "Shall the accused be expelled?" was then put in the same manner, when the following Brethren voted yes: (*Here give the names of those in the affirmative*).

And the following Brethren voted no: (*Here give the names of those in the negative*).

Two thirds not having voted in favor of expulsion, the question, "Shall the accused be suspended?" was then put in the same manner, when the following Brethren voted yes: (*Here give the names of those in the affirmative*).

And the following Brethren voted no: (*Here give the names of those in the negative*).

Two thirds not having voted in favor of suspension, the Master then ordered that the accused be reprimanded.

Brother was then introduced, when the Master proceeded to administer the reprimand in open Lodge.

There being no farther business, the Lodge was closed in due form and in harmony, until the next stated Communication.

Attest:

A. B., *Secretary*.

If two thirds vote for either expulsion or suspension, of course the Lodge proceeds no farther with the question of the grade of punishment.

The Constitution requires that some Brother be appointed to take minutes of the evidence, &c. The record of the evidence should also show all objections to the regularity of the proceedings, or to the admission of evidence.

[43]

FORM OF RECORD OF EVIDENCE, ETC., ON THE TRIAL.

(RULE 9.)

At a special Communication of Lodge, No. , held at , on the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 , for the purpose of considering the complaint and specifications made by Brother against Brother , the following complaint and specifications were read :

(*Here copy the complaint and specifications*).

The notices to the accused and the complainant, with the returns to the same, were then read, as follows :

(*Here copy the notices and returns*).

Brother , being then asked what answer he had to make to the said complaint and specifications, submitted the following answer :

(*Here copy the answer*).

Brother requested that , not a Mason, might be admitted to assist him as his counsel, which was refused by the Lodge, it being contrary to Masonic usage to admit as counsel any person not a Mason.

Brother then requested Brother to assist him as his counsel, who consented to do so.

Brother then objected to the second specification as not being sufficiently definite and certain, which was overruled by the Lodge.

Brother was then called as a witness by the complainant, in support of said charges, and testified as a Master Mason as follows : I reside in , am a member of Lodge, No. , in good and regular standing. I am acquainted with Brother ; I saw him on Main street in , on the day of , A. . L. . 58 . I was on the opposite side of the street; he appeared to be much intoxicated, —

Objection was made to witness testifying as to the appearance of the accused, saying that he should state what the accused did, and how he acted; stating his appearance being but stating his conclusion from what he saw; but the objection was overruled.

I saw him five or ten minutes; he reeled as he walked, &c., (*as the facts may be*).

On cross-examination he further testified : I knew that Brother had been sick for several days. Am a physician; do not think Brother 's reeling and staggering while walking, was the result of weakness caused by his sickness. Can conceive of a man's being so weak from sickness long continued, as to reel like a man intoxicated. Am certain this could not have been the case with Brother . Have none but the

kindest feelings towards Brother . May have said he was drinking too much of late, &c.

The Lodge having been properly cautioned, Mr. was then called as a witness by the complainant, and testified on his honor, as follows : (*Here give the testimony as in the case of the first witness*).

On cross-examination Mr. further testified, &c. (*Here give the cross-examination*).

The complainant then offered the deposition of Brother .

Objection was made to this deposition, because the person appointed to take it was not a Mason, which was overruled by the Lodge.

Objection was further made because the notice given the accused was too short to enable him to get his counsel present, which appearing to be the fact, the deposition was rejected.

(Or) it appearing that the counsel relied on was not a Mason, and could not have appeared, and that the accused was present and asked such questions as he saw fit, the objection was overruled, and the deposition was read and is hereto annexed, marked (A).

The evidence on the part of the complainant here closed.

Brother , in behalf of Brother , then offered the affidavit of Mr. , to which the complainant objected, on the ground that Mr. should be produced for cross-examination, and the affidavit was rejected by the Lodge.

The Lodge having been properly cautioned, Mr. was then called as a witness, and the complainant then consented that the affidavit might be read, which was read accordingly, and is hereto annexed, marked (B).

On cross-examination Mr. further testified, &c.

The evidence was then closed.

Attest : A. B., appointed to take minutes of the evidence.

These minutes are thus given in a somewhat extended form, because they present a convenient way of calling attention to certain facts and proceedings in the course of a trial. Thus, the statement of objections by either party, and the grounds of them, and the decision of the Lodge thereon, both of which should always be stated ; that a person not a Mason was not permitted to act as counsel, but that the accused had or had not counsel ; that the first witness testified in his character as a Master Mason ; that the Lodge was properly cautioned before the admission of the second witness, who was not a Mason, and made his statement on his honor ; that the testimony is taken down as near as practicable in the words of the witness, &c. ; that an affidavit taken without the knowledge of the other party was not admitted, &c., &c.

In case the accused is suspended or expelled, it may be desirable that he should be officially informed of it.

[44]

FORM OF NOTICE OF CONVICTION.

To

Take notice, that at a special Communication of Lodge, No. , held at , on the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 , upon consideration of the complaint and specifications made by Brother against you, it was adjudged and determined by the Lodge that you are guilty of the offence charged in said complaint and specifications, and that you be expelled (or suspended) from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

Attest:

A. B., *Secretary*
Lodge, No. .

It is the duty of the Secretary, within thirty days, and before the meeting of the Grand Lodge, to transmit full copies of everything relating to the trial to the Grand Master. This is required to enable the Grand Master to examine them, and if any informality exists, send them back to the Lodge for correction. If the Secretary omits therefore to put in everything, he will be called upon to furnish the whole series anew, and corrected.

[45]

FORM OF REPORT TO GRAND MASTER.

(RULE 10.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire:

The following are true copies of all the papers and proceedings, in and by Lodge, No. , in the matter of the complaint made by Brother against Brother .
(Here copy everything).

[L. S.]

A. B., *Master*Attest: *Lodge, No. .*C. D., *Secretary Lodge, No. .*

If the Grand Master discovers no informality, or after such errors as are pointed out by him have been corrected, a copy of all the proceedings are sent to the Grand Lodge, at the next Annual Communication,

[46]

FORM OF RETURN TO GRAND LODGE.

(RULE 9.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire :

The following are true copies of all the papers and proceedings in and by Lodge, No. , in the matter of the complaint made by Brother against Brother .
(Here copy everything as before).

[L. S.]

A. B., *Master*

Attest :

*Lodge, No. .*C. D., *Secretary**Lodge, No. .*

If no appeal has been taken by either party, the Committee on Trials and Appeals, to whom the papers will be referred, will not ordinarily hear anything from any one, but will examine the papers to see that everything has been done in a formally correct manner, and that the conclusion is justified by the evidence, and if so they will recommend its confirmation, otherwise they will send the matter back to the Lodge for correction.

If either party desires to be heard by the Grand Lodge, he should appeal from the decision or ruling which he deems wrong.

[47]

FORM OF APPEAL.

(RULE 11.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire :

The undersigned appeals to you, from the decision of Lodge, No. , made on the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 , in passing sentence of suspension upon him, and specifies the following as the grounds of his appeal:

1st. Because the Lodge erred in not permitting Mr. to appear and assist him as his counsel.

2d. Because the second specification of the charge is not sufficiently definite and certain.

3d. Because the Lodge erred in receiving testimony as to appearances of intoxication.

4th. Because the Lodge erred in admitting the deposition

of , which was taken before a person not a Mason.

5th. Because the Lodge erred in admitting the same deposition, although no seasonable notice was given the accused of the taking thereof.

6th. Because the Lodge erred in rejecting the affidavit of Mr.

7th. Because the evidence was not sufficient to warrant the verdict of the Lodge.

8th. Because the Lodge erred in fixing the penalty of suspension by a mere majority vote.

All of which appears by the papers, proceedings and evidence in the case.

Dated the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B.

This appeal must be filed with the Secretary, within one month of the decision, and is returned by him to the Grand Lodge, with the other papers and proceedings in the case.

It may be desirable for the appellant to retain a copy and have it at the Grand Lodge.

[48]

NOTICE OF APPEAL.

(RULE 11.)

To ,

Take notice, that I have taken an appeal from the decision of Lodge, No. , in the matter of the complaint and specifications made by you against me, and that I shall prosecute the same at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, on the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B.

This notice should be served as other notices, and a return made, which the appellant should have with him at the Grand Lodge.

The appeal by the complainant, and notice, should be like the above, with the necessary alterations, which can easily be made.

[49]

FORM OF PETITION FOR RESTORATION.

(SECTION 133.)

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of Lodge, No. :

Respectfully represents , that on the day

of , A.'. L.'. 58 , A. D. 18 , he was expelled (*or suspended*) from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, by said Lodge, No. , and he now prays, that with the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge, he may be restored to his rights and privileges as a Master Mason.

Dated the day of , A.'. L.'. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B.

Should the ballot be favorable, a copy of the petition and action of the Lodge thereon, should be communicated to the Grand Lodge, at its next Annual Communication.

[50]

FORM OF RECOMMENDATION TO THE GRAND LODGE OF THE RESTORATION OF AN EXPelled OR SUSPENDED MASON.

(SECTIONS 132 AND 133.)

At a stated Communication of Lodge, No. , held at , on the day of , A.'. L.'. 58 , A. D. 18 , the following petition was presented: (*Here copy the petition for restoration*). Which was received, and the stated Communication on the day of , A.'. L.'. 58 , A. D. 18 , was appointed for its consideration, and it was referred to a Committee consisting of Brothers , , and .

Attest: A. B., *Secretary*
Lodge, No. .

At a stated Communication of Lodge, No. , held at , on the day of , A.'. L.'. 58 , A. D. 18 . The Committee, to whom had been referred the petition of , for restoration to the rights and privileges of Masonry, made their report as follows: (*Here copy their report*). Whereupon, the ballot being passed, the Lodge voted unanimously in favor of such restoration, and it was:

Voted, That it be recommended to the Grand Lodge to consent to and approve the restoration of to the rights and privileges of Masonry.

A. B., *Secretary*
Lodge, No. .

FORM OF IMPEACHMENT OF MASTER OF A LODGE.

(SECTION 137.)

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire:

The undersigned,

standing of , , five members in good and regular Lodge, No. , (or District Deputy Grand Master of the th Masonic District), hereby impeach W.. Bro. , Master of (said) Lodge, No. , of unmasonic conduct in the matters following: (Here insert specifications of the conduct complained of).

Dated the day of , A.. L.. 58 , A. D. 18 .

(To be signed by the Impeachers.)

The complaint against any member of the Grand Lodge, by an individual Brother against a Lodge, or by one Lodge against another, may be in similar form to the complaint in a particular Lodge (Form 25), except the address, which should be, "To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire." Upon receiving the impeachment of a Master, or the complaint against a member of the Grand Lodge, or a particular Lodge, the Grand Master issues a commission for trial.

FORM OF COMMISSION FOR TRIAL IN GRAND LODGE.

(SECTION 141.)

To R. W. Brothers , , ,

Know ye, That I, , Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire, by virtue of the provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and ancient Masonic usage, hereby appoint and commission you to examine and try the matters named in the annexed impeachment (or complaint and specifications). In performing this duty, you will cause the accused to be served with an attested copy of the complaint and specifications, and notify both parties of the time appointed by you for hearing the matter, a reasonable time before such hearing. You will proceed with the trial, according to Masonic law and usage, agreeably to the rules for the regulation of trials in particular Lodges, so far as the same may be applicable, and return to me, with this commission, attested

copies of all your proceedings, together with your findings in both matters of law and fact, with any recommendations you may think proper.

Witness my hand and private seal, this day of ,
A.º. L.º. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., *Grand Master.*

[53]

FORM OF NOTICE TO THE ACCUSED.

To (insert proper name and title of the accused).

Take notice, that the annexed is a true copy of the complaint and specifications preferred against you to the Most Worshipful , Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire, on the day of , A.º. L.º. 58 , A. D. 18 , and that we have been appointed by him a Committee to hear and try the same, and that we will meet for that purpose at , on , the day of , A.º. L.º. 58 , A. D. 18 , at o'clock in the noon, at which time you are hereby summoned and required to appear, and then and there make answer to said complaint, and be heard thereon.

Dated the day of , A.º. L.º. 58 , A. D. 18 .

(To be signed by the Committee.)

[54]

FORM OF NOTICE TO THE COMPLAINANT.

To ,

Take notice, that we have been appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire, a Committee to hear and try the complaint and specifications preferred by you against , on the day of , A.º. L.º. 58 , A. D. 18 , and that we will meet for that purpose at , on , the day of , A.º. L.º. 58 , A. D. 18 , at o'clock in the noon, and the accused has been notified to be present.

Dated the day of , A.º. L.º. 58 , A. D. 18 .

(Signed by the Committee.)

The names of all may be signed by the Chairman, he adding, "By Chairman."

Returns should be made of the service of these notices, as in Form 30.

The accused having received notice of the complaint, &c., and of the appointment of the Committee, if he has any objection to either of the Committee, should make his challenge, that the Grand Master, if satisfied there is ground for it, may supply the vacancy. If there be probable ground of objection, the Brother challenged should remove all question by resignation.

The answer of the accused may be as in Form 34, or may be more particular. See the directions following Form 30.

The summons of witnesses, and depositions, may be similar to the forms in particular Lodges, and be issued by the Chairman of the Committee.

At the time appointed, the Committee meet and appoint one of their number to act as Clerk. The Constitution provides that the first named shall be Chairman. The trial will then proceed as in a particular Lodge.

[55]

FORM OF RETURN TO COMMISSION.

To the Most Worshipful , Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in New Hampshire:

The Committee appointed by the annexed commission, having caused the accused to be served with an attested copy of the complaint and specifications, and notified both parties of the time and place appointed by them to hear and try the cause, as will appear by the notices and returns hereto annexed, marked "A" and "B", met at , on , the day of , A.D. 58 , A. D. 18 , at o'clock in the noon.

Present—

R. W. Bro.

" " "
" " "
" " "
" " "

Brother was appointed to act as Clerk of the Committee.

The complaint and specifications annexed to the commission were then read.

The notices to the accused and to the complainant, with the returns to the same, hereto annexed and marked "A" and "B," were then read.

The accused, being then asked what answer he had to make to the said complaint and specifications, submitted the answer, hereto annexed, marked "C."

(The record of the trial is then given as in Form 43).

The evidence being closed, after hearing both parties, we have found and determined (here insert the findings both of law and fact).

We therefore recommend (here insert such recommendations of punishment, as to the Committee seem just).

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dated the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B.,
C. D.,
E. F.,
G. H.,
J. L., }
Committee.

Should the Committee fail to finish the hearing at one sitting, the return should show at what hour, and to what time and place, the hearing was adjourned, and at the commencement of the next sitting, the hour and place, when and where, it was recommenced, and who were present.

[56]

FORM OF ADJOURNMENT, ETC., OF HEARING.

The Committee then at o'clock, M., adjourned till at o'clock, M., at the same place.

On , the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 , at o'clock in the noon, the Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—

R. . W. . Bro. , &c.

If the Committee recommend the suspension or revocation of the Warrant of a Lodge, they will also return the names of those members whom they find were concerned in the irregular or unmasonic conduct. See Section 77.

[57]

FORM OF NOTICE BY GRAND MASTER OF SUSPENSION, AND SUMMONS TO ATTEND THE NEXT GRAND LODGE.

(TO INDIVIDUAL.)

To Brother ,

Take notice that the Committee appointed to hear and try the complaint made against you on the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 , by , having fully heard the matter, have found and determined (here insert so much of the findings as is necessary), and recommend (here insert the recommendation).

You are therefore suspended from all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, till the pleasure of the Grand Lodge be known,

and are summoned and required to attend the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, on the day of May next.

Dated the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., *Grand Master.*

[58]

FORM OF NOTICE BY GRAND MASTER OF SUSPENSION, AND
SUMMONS TO ATTEND THE NEXT GRAND LODGE.

(TO A LODGE.)

*To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of
Lodge, No .*

Take notice (as in Form 57 to the close of the recommendation).

The Warrant of your Lodge is therefore suspended, till the pleasure of the Grand Lodge be known, and you are summoned and required to attend the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge on the day of May next, and to bring with you the Warrant and records of your Lodge, with all books and papers in any wise relating to the said complaint, or referred to in the hearing before the said Committee.

Dated the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., *Grand Master.*

[59]

FORM OF SUMMONS TO MEMBERS IMPLICATED.

(SECTION 77.)

To Brothers (here insert all the names returned by the Committee).

Take notice, that by the return of the Committee, duly commissioned to hear and try the complaint made by
against Lodge, No. , it appears that you and each of
you were implicated in the irregular and unmasonic conduct complained of. You are therefore summoned and required to attend the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, on the day of May next, at which time the Grand Lodge will act on such return.

Dated the day of , A.·. L.·. 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B., *Grand Master.*

A return of the service of each of the last three notices should be made to the Grand Master, to be by him returned to the Grand Lodge with the other papers.

At the Grand Lodge, the Committee on Trials and Appeals, to whom the papers will be referred, will not ordinarily hear any further testimony than appears in the return to the Commission, unless notice has been given that such evidence will be offered, but will determine the matter upon the evidence already taken.

[60]

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER NEW TESTIMONY.

To ,

Take notice, that upon the hearing of the complaint, and return of the commission issued thereon, by against , the undersigned will offer evidence to prove (here state what it is intended to prove).

Dated the day of , A. . L. . 58 , A. D. 18 .

A. B.

If new evidence is offered, of course rebutting evidence will be received without notice.

Although not coming strictly within the scope of my appointment, the following form of records has been prepared, at the suggestion of many Brethren, who have had occasion to observe the loose way in which the records of some Lodges are kept. No obligation exists upon any Lodge to observe this form; and perhaps other forms may be in use equally, and perhaps more, distinct. Nor is it supposed that all the business here given could ever occur at any one Lodge meeting. It is hoped that it will furnish to Secretaries a model, which may assist many of them in what is to them an unaccustomed duty. One or two general suggestions may be pardoned. It is to be presumed that all Lodge meetings are regular, although some of them are *statedly* held in pursuance of the By-Laws, and others *specially* called by the Master. To distinguish a meeting therefore, as "*regular*," means nothing. The full Christian and surnames, with initials of all other names, of every Brother present, should appear. If there be two of the same name, the whole of the middle name should be given, or the individuals otherwise distinguished. The capacity in which Brothers appear, as Officers, members or visitors, should also be designated. If a Brother is temporarily acting in an office, it is neater and better to place "*as*," or "*acting as*," before the name of the office, than *p. t.*, or *pro tem.*, after it. The record should show all money received at that Communication, which includes all received by the Secretary since the last Communication.

[61]

FORM OF LODGE RECORD.

A stated Communication of *Strict Observance* Lodge, No. 100, of A. F. and A. M., was held at *Freemasons' Hall*, in *Kilkenny*, on *Thursday*, the *twenty-fourth* day of *June*, A. . L. . 5869, A. D. 1869, at $7\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock P. M.

PRESENT.

Officers.

W. Benjamin F. Preston, M. .
 Bro. Joseph W. Webb, S. W. .
 " James Anderson as J. W. .
 " John Knowlton, Treas. .
 " Horace Chase, Sec. .
 " John Dean Oliver, S. D. .
 " Anthony Sayre, J. D. .
 " Emanuel Rebeld, Chap. .
 " Christopher Wren, Mar. .
 " Charles E. Starr, S. Stew. .
 " Amos Dermott, J. Stew. .
 " John Doe, Tyler.

W. George Payne, P. M. .
 " Stephen Morin, P. M. .

Members.

Bro. William Morgan.
 " John Davis Oliver.
 " J. T. Desaguliers.
 " Frederic Dalcho.
 " Moses M. Hayes.
 " Isaac DaCosta.

Visitors.

M. W. A. M. Winn, G. M.
 Fraternal Lodge, No. 71,
 Farmington.
 R. W. Henry O. Kent,
 D. D. G. M. 10th Dist.
 North Star Lodge, No. 8,
 Lancaster.
 Bro. Jeremy Cross, Solar Lodge,
 No. 14, Bath, Me.

The Lodge was opened in due form on the third degree in Masonry.

The records of the stated Communication, May 27th, and of the special Communications, June 10th and 19th, were read and approved.

The petition of Mr. Andrew Jackson to be made a Mason, recommended by Brothers Anthony Sayre and Emanuel Rebeld, and accompanied by the deposit, was received and referred to a Committee consisting of Brothers Horace Chase, Frederic Dalcho and William Morgan.

The petition of Mr. Abraham Lincoln to be made a Mason, recommended by Brothers John Knowlton and James Anderson, accompanied by the consent of Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 10, Bangor, Maine, and the permission of M. W. John H. Lynde, Grand Master of Masons in Maine, and by the deposit, was received, and referred to a Committee, consisting of Brothers John Dean Oliver, John Davis Oliver, and Lawrence Dermott.

The petition of Brother Joseph Balsamo, an Entered Apprentice, for advancement, recommended by Brothers Charles E. Starr and Horace Chase, accompanied by the consent of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, in which he was initiated, and the deposit, was received, and referred to a Committee consisting of Brothers Joseph W. Webb, Stephen Morin and Christopher Wren.

The Committee on the petition of Mr. Albert Pike to be made a Mason, reported unfavorably, whereupon he was balloted for and rejected; and the W. Master directed his deposit to be returned.

The Committee on the petition of John Q. A. Fellows reported favorably, whereupon he was balloted for and elected.

The Committee on the petition of Brother Henry Fowle, to be admitted a member of this Lodge, reported favorably, whereupon he was balloted for and duly elected.

A communication from the R. W. Grand Secretary, giving notice of rejections, was read and ordered to be placed on file, and the names entered on the black book.

A communication from Rising Sun Lodge, No. 39, at Nashua, asking information about one James Buchanan, was read and referred to a Committee consisting of Brothers George Payne, Emanuel Rebold and John Knowlton.

A communication from Mrs. Martha Jones, the widow of our late Brother John Jones, was read.

Voted, That the W. Master draw his order on the Treasurer for the sum of twenty-five dollars, and pay the same to Mrs. Martha Jones.

A communication from Pythagoras Lodge, No. 1, at New York, on the register of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, was read and ordered to be placed on file.

The Committee appointed at the special Communication, June 19th, to prepare resolutions expressive of the feelings of this Lodge, on the death of our late Brother, John Jones, submitted the following : (*here insert the resolutions*), which were adopted.

The Committee appointed at the last stated Communication, to agree with the owner for the use of Freemason's Hall, reported : That they had taken a lease of the Hall for five years, at the rate of fifty dollars a year,—which report was accepted and the lease ratified.

The bill of Wood & Hall, for sundry articles furnished the Lodge, amounting to \$23.65, was presented, when it was—

Ordered, That the bill of Wood & Hall be paid.

The bill of Kilkenny Cornet Band, for services June 19th, was presented, and referred to a Committee consisting of the Master and Wardens.

The bill of the Tyler, for washing aprons, amounting to \$1.87, was presented, when it was—

Ordered, That the bill of John Doe be paid.

The Lodge of Master Masons was then closed, and a Lodge of Entered Apprentices opened in its stead.

Mr. John Q. A. Fellows, a candidate for initiation, being in waiting, was duly prepared, brought forward, and initiated as an Entered Apprentice, in due and ancient form.

Brother Arthur Craig, an Entered Apprentice, was then examined as to his proficiency in the first degree, which being satisfactory :

The Lodge of Entered Apprentices was closed, and a Lodge of Fellow Crafts opened in its stead.

Brother Arthur Craig, an Entered Apprentice, being in waiting, was duly prepared, brought forward, and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, in due and ancient form.

Brother William Martin, a Fellow Craft, was then examined as to his proficiency in the second degree, which being satisfactory :

The Lodge of Fellow Crafts was closed, and a Lodge of Master Masons opened in its stead.

Brother William Martin, a Fellow Craft, being in waiting, was duly prepared, brought forward, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, in due and ancient form.

The application of Brother John Q. A. Fellows, an Entered Apprentice, for advancement, accompanied by the fee, was received and placed on file.

The application of Brother Arthur Craig, a Fellow Craft, for advancement, accompanied by the usual fee, was received and placed on file.

Brother William Martin signed the By-Laws, and became a member of this Lodge.

The records of the evening were then read for correction, and approved.

There being no further business, the Lodge was closed in due form, and in harmony, till the next stated Communication.

Receipts :

Mr. Andrew Jackson,	deposit,	\$10.00
“ Abraham Lincoln,	“	10.00
Bro.: Joseph Balsamo,	“	5.00
“ John Q. A. Fellows,	“	5.00
“ Arthur Craig,	“	10.00
“ Isaac Da Costa,	dues,	1.00
“ Frederic Dalcho,	“	1.00

		\$42.00

A true record. Attest:

HORACE CHASE, *Secretary.*

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